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**Place-Names of Barra in the
Outer Hebrides**

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Abstract

The aim of the thesis is to examine the nomenclature of the Barra Isles by investigating the distribution and interaction of Norse, Gaelic and English name-forming elements. Consideration is given to the historical, political and economic reasons for changes in place-names, and the language situation is assessed. In a theory-based chapter the function of names, naming strategies, name changes, and reasons for loss of names are examined. The main thrust is to compile a gazetteer of place-names gathered both from historical documents such as maps, sea-charts, registers and travel literature, and from interviews with local people. With the help of a database the corpus is analysed with regard to semantics, morphology and naming intention. Finally, a consideration of the historical development of names illustrates degrees of stability and of change in the place-names of Barra.

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Sinclair, Joseph †	Jaw	Uidh
Sinclair, Neil	Neilie Mór	Garrygall

List of Abbreviations

A	antiquity
acc.	accusative
AD	Admiralty
A.D.	anno domini
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverb
art.	article
B.C.	before Christ
BUC	Buckinghamshire
C	compound names
c.	circa
CAM	Cambridgeshire
CHE	Cheshire
cf.	compare
CNPN	compound name including a personal name
CR	Craigston Register (see bibliography)
CUM	Cumbria
C1	primary compound names
C2	secondary compound names
C3	tertiary compound names
dat.	dative
DOR	Dorset
e.g.	for example
Eng.	English
ESX	Essex
f	feminine
f.	following
F	field
G	Gaelic
gen.	genitive
GLO	Gloucestershire
HMP	Hampshire
HRT	Hertfordshire
I	island
i.e.	for example
INV	Inverness-shire
IPA	International Phonetic Alphabet
Lat.	Latin
LEI	Leicestershire

m	masculine
MEng.	Middle English
MIr.	Middle Irish
ML	MacLean's map (see bibliography)
NGR	National Grid Reference
nom.	nominative
n	neuter
no.	number
NTB	Northumberland
O	other
OEng.	Old English
OIr.	Old Irish
ON	Old Norse
OR	Oral Tradition
OS	Ordnance Survey
P	parish
PER	Perthshire
pl.	plural
PN	personal name
PrN	name including a preposition
S	settlement
Sco.	Scots
sg.	singular
SHR	Shropshire
SN	simple-name
SPNDB	Scottish Place-Names Database
SSPCK	Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge
T	tidal island
TIPA	Tokyo International Phonetic Alphabet
U	underwater feature
v.	verb
V	vegetation
vol.	volume
W	water-related feature
WAR	Warwickshire
WML	Westmoreland
YOE	Yorkshire (East Riding)
YOW	Yorkshire (West Riding)
*	indication of older existing name

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1 The Project

One of the fundamental factors contributing to the formation of Europe as it is today was the cross-migration of peoples between its constituent countries. One might think that the Hebrides, lying as they do on the western fringe of Europe, would be relatively unaffected by this process. In fact the islands are situated on what was the main sea route between Scandinavia and Ireland and so have been home to a number of cultures. This is reflected in the variety of languages by which the place-names of Barra have been influenced.

This thesis deals with the collection and analysis of the place-names of the Barra group.

The first chapter describes the geographic layout of the isles, their historical, cultural and economic setting, and discusses the evolution of the language situation from the time of earliest settlement until the present day. It summarises the most important publications on the place-names of Scotland, the Hebrides, and, in particular, Barra, and describes the methods used for collecting and evaluating place-name data.

The theory-based second chapter concentrates on the terminological situation of words and names and attempts to define what a place-name is. It examines the function of names and naming strategies, and characterises the creators of place-names. It introduces various types of name change, and discusses the reasons for loss of names with a particular view to the place-names of Barra.

Chapter three details the main sources from which place-names material has been gathered and concludes with an outline of Barra's settlement history.

The core of the thesis is the gazetteer of place-names which is introduced by a brief user manual. This collection forms the basis for the subsequent analysis chapters which aim to shed light on naming intention, syntax, aspects of morphology and phonology, and the interaction of languages. The concluding chapter identifies the main characteristics of Barra's nomenclature and discusses possible areas for future research.

1.1 Topography: Barra and Its Satellites

The Barra group lies off the west coast of mainland Scotland, in the area between longitude $7^{\circ} 40' \text{ W}$ and $7^{\circ} 19' \text{ W}$ and latitude $56^{\circ} 46' \text{ N}$ and $57^{\circ} 04' \text{ N}$. The islands between Barra Head and the Sound of Barra measure a distance of approximately

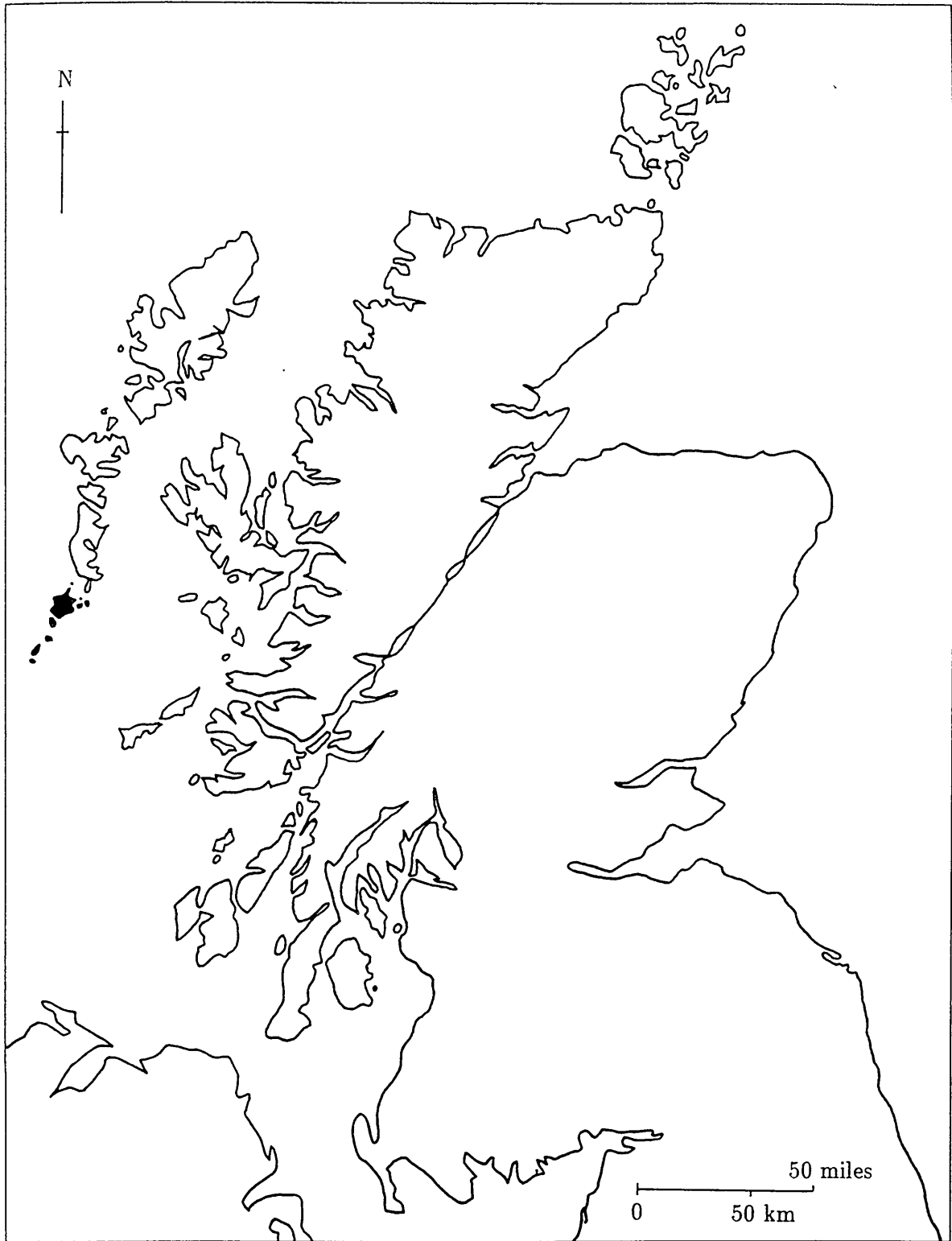


Figure 1.1: Location of the Barra group within Scotland

32 km and form the southernmost extremity of the Western Isles. Apart from Barra and Vatersay, nowadays the only inhabited islands of the group, there stretch to the south a further seven islands of which Sandray, Pabbay, Mingulay and Berneray are the largest. Islands of varying sizes are scattered to the north-east of Barra. The number of skerries and rocks varies according to the tidal level.

The archipelago which forms the Barra Isles lies 7 km south west of South Uist, and approximately 150 km west of Oban. The closest inhabited place is Eriskay, which lies just south of South Uist.

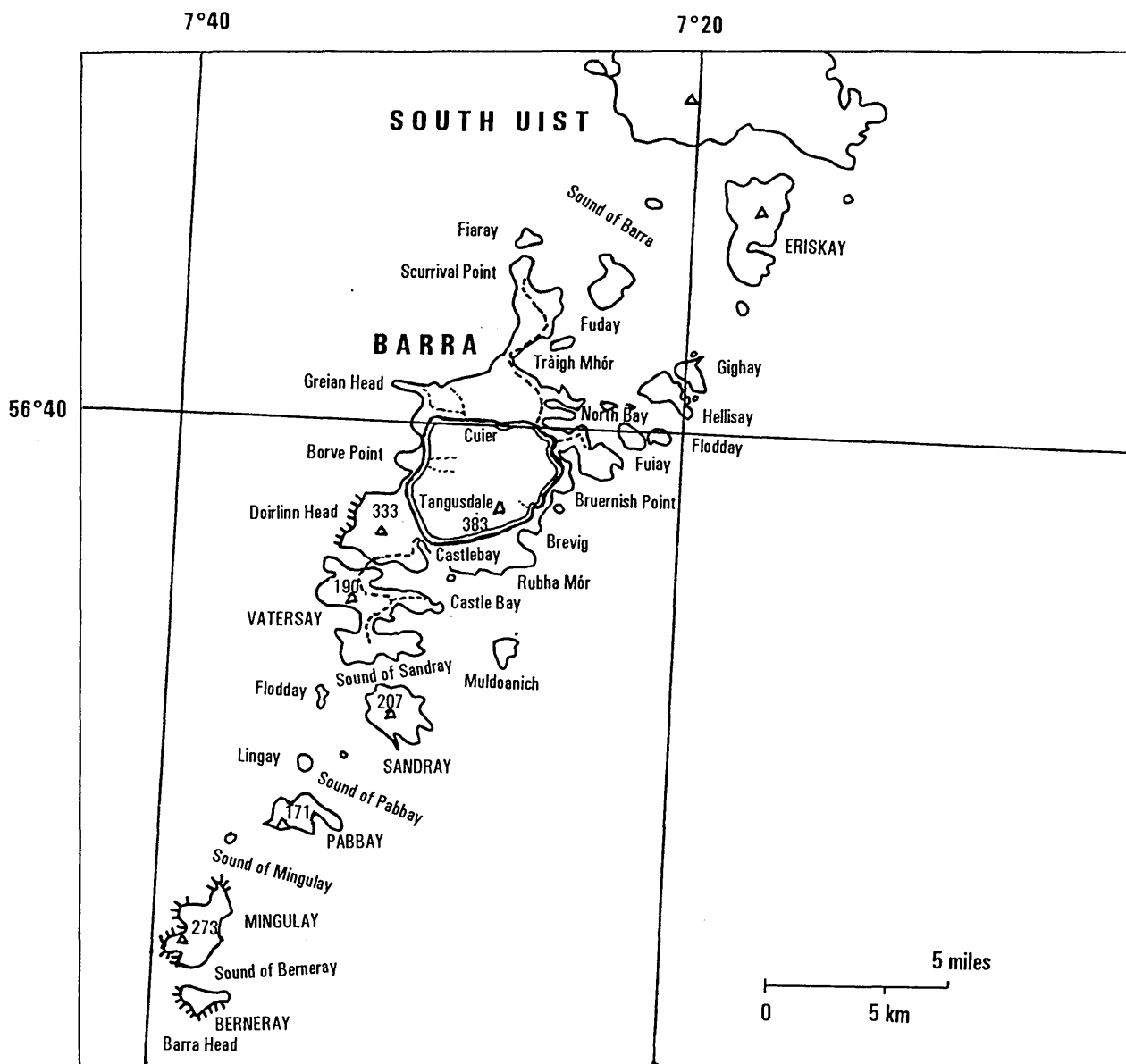


Figure 1.2: The Barra group

Barra's physical appearance is dominated by an Archaean gneiss formation chain of hills, which cuts through the island from north-east to south-west, with the peaks of Heaval, Hartaval, An Sgala Mór and Ben Tangaval all rising above 330m. These mountains separate Barra's rocky and indented east coast from the machair plains of its west coast. The chain of steep and rocky hills is continued in the islands south of Barra. Biulacraig in Mingulay rises steeply from the sea to a height of more than 219 m, and is the second highest cliff in Britain.

The barren hills and windswept moorlands of Barra's interior contrast with the



Figure 1.3: Biulacraig on Mingulay



Figure 1.4: Interior, looking south-west from Bruernish



Figure 1.5: Tràigh Eais

sheltered harbours of Castlebay and Northbay, and the wide sandy bays found in other parts of the island. The main peat areas are concentrated in the centre and on the east side, whilst sandy soils predominate in the northern and western parts of the island. Extensive dunes in the north are in constant danger of being reduced by sand drift. Due to the strong winter and spring gales the shore is subject to marine erosion, resulting in a ragged coastline with narrow inlets, caves and natural arches. Loch an Dùin and Loch Tangusdale¹ are the largest freshwater lakes, but generally speaking the number of lakes is rather small. Among the numerous small water courses only Abhainn Mór,² in Borge, and Abhainn nam Breac, in Northbay, are noteworthy.

The climate is oceanic, mild and wet. The average temperature is 13°C in summer and 4°C in winter. Rainfall is moderate and fairly constant throughout the year and ranges from 1000–1600 mm per annum.³ Prevailing winds reach gale force in more than 30 days each year and are responsible for the absence of trees or bushes. Only in sheltered places in the east can a few older trees and shrubs be seen.

¹This is the OS spelling. In conversation the specific is lenited.

²The spelling of this name in the above form is incorrect. It should be *(An) Abhainn Mhór*. However, the above spelling is the one published by the OS in the Pathfinder series and for reasons of reference is quoted in its incorrect version.

³D. D. Gilbertson, 1995:5–14.

A mostly single-track ring road of some 21 km surrounds the central group of hills. Leading off the ring road are two cul-de-sac roads, one heading to the northernmost settlement, Eoligarry, and the other one crossing the causeway to Vatersay. Several smaller roads lead to townships off the main track. At low tide Tràigh Mhór, with its extensive cockle shell layers, is used as an airfield.

The land is divided into 26 townships, of which Castlebay is the economic and administrative centre. Barra constitutes a civil parish within the county of Inverness-shire.

1.2 Historical, Cultural and Economic Setting

The first human settlers arrived on Barra after the last Ice Age and were hunter-gatherers. Archaeological finds suggest that farming was established by 3000 B.C. Standing stones, raised individually or in pairs, a few of which may be found on Barra, were erected during the Bronze Age and later. The next traceable stage of habitation was the Iron Age, during which time the duns and stone brochs were built. The large network of these defence sites indicates that times were unsettled.⁴ The Picts who settled in the Outer Hebrides were superseded by the Scots, who came from Ireland and pushed into what is now known as Scotland, from the 6th century onwards.⁵

The Norse settlement in the Western Isles probably started in the last decade or two of the 8th century. The Norsemen probably used Barra initially as winter quarters on their way to Ireland but soon became permanent settlers. Unlike for Iceland, where the *Landnámabok* gives a detailed account of the Norse settlement, there are no written records for the Hebrides. The viking raids on Iona and Skye in the period between 795 and 825 A.D., as described in the Annals of Ulster and in the Annals of Innisfallen, are most likely the cornerstones of the initial Norse settlement of the Hebrides.⁶ In 888 A.D. Harald Finehair conquered the Outer Isles and established Norwegian royal power. By the tenth century the inhabitants of the Western Isles were known as the Gallgaels, 'foreign Gaels', and the islands themselves as Innsegall, the 'islands of the foreigners'. Apart from a few changes between Norwegian and Celtic rulers in the one hundred years following the arrival of Harald Finehair, the Hebrides remained Norwegian territory until the Battle of Largs in 1263. In 1266, as a result of the Treaty of Perth, the Hebrides were sold to the Scottish Crown.

⁴See K. Branigan, 1995, SEARCH Sheffield Environmental and Archaeological Research Campaign in the Hebrides, exhibition leaflet.

⁵See A. Jennings, 1996:64.

⁶See A. Jennings, 1996:61.

The twenty-first chief of the MacNeils, Neil of the Castle, arrived on Barra in 1030.⁷ In 1344 David II gave Barra to Ranald MacRuary, whose heir and brother-in-law, John of Isla, became the Lord of the Isles. In 1427 Gilleonan MacNeil received a charter of Barra and Boisdale from Alexander III, Lord of the Isles, which was confirmed by the Crown in 1495. During the following four and a half centuries until about the mid-eighteenth century, a mixed feudal-tribal structure⁸ dominated political and social life on Barra. Kinship affiliation and territorial identification coincided and the island remains MacNeil territory until the present day. Although the political rulership of the MacNeil of Barra ceased in 1837, MacNeil remains the dominant surname on Barra. Up until the 16th century the Lord of the Isles was considered the sovereign of the clan chiefs. After this time the Scottish Crown tried to break his power. In 1601 MacNeil lost his property in South Uist to the MacDonalds of Clanranald. King James II confirmed MacNeil's possession of Barra in 1688 and made Roderick, 38th chief of Barra, a baron. Roderick is said to have refused to support King William in 1691, and to have taken part in the uprising of 1715 on the side of the royal Stuarts.⁹ Although the MacNeils never openly supported Charles Stuart in the uprising of 1745, Roderick MacNeil, the 39th chief, assisted the prince during his escape and was imprisoned.

The period from 1746 to 1886, when finally the Crofters' Act was passed, was characterised by attempts to 'bring the Highlands and Islands into line with the cultural, economic and political system of Britain'.¹⁰

"The relationship between chief and clansman was transformed into one between landlord and tenant."¹¹

The introduction of the potato, a rise in the price of cattle, and the booming kelp industry caused a rapid increase in population. In order to satisfy the growing financial needs of landlords, rents for crofts, fishing and coastal rights were raised. However, after the Napoleonic Wars continental resources became accessible again, and barilla from Spain replaced kelp. Production of kelp subsequently collapsed, and although the islanders' incomes dramatically decreased, rents stayed high. As a consequence the population was struck by poverty, and in many cases islanders were hardly able to provide enough food for their families, let alone raise money to pay the rent.

⁷R. L. MacNeil, 1975:138.

⁸See F. G. Vallée, 1954:2.

⁹See R. L. MacNeil, 1975:113.

¹⁰F. G. Vallée, 1954:5.

¹¹F. G. Vallée, 1954:5.

From 1822 onwards, when Colonel Roderick MacNeil was succeeded by his son Lieutenant-General Roderick MacNeil, the local population was in constant danger of being evicted to be replaced by protestants. After MacNeil's last attempt to maintain his income, by building a glass factory, failed, bankruptcy followed and in 1838 the estate was sold to Colonel John Gordon of Cluny.

It was during the ownership of Colonel John Gordon that the island faced its worst depressions. A succession of bad winters and the failure of the potato crop in 1846, in combination with overpopulation, resulted in a decade of vicious clearances. The best arable land, the areas of Eoligarry and Vatersay, were turned into large farms run by estate factors, who were non-locals. The islanders, deprived of any rights, had the choice of either accepting poor housing conditions and insecurity of tenure, or of following the Gordons' appeal to emigrate to Canada. Colonel Gordon's attempts to rid himself of his tenants even went as far as offering Barra to the British government as a penal colony. When in 1886 the Crofters' Act was passed, the rents were fixed by the government, housing conditions were improved and the forced evictions stopped.

In the period between 1886 and the end of the First World War the economic situation changed rapidly. During the second half of the nineteenth century the Hebridean economy was based on fishing. Whereas agriculture hardly provided enough for Barra's inhabitants – unless they had fertile land in Eoligarry or Allasdale – fishing was the main pillar of the island's economy. The installation of a telegraph connection in 1884 and the natural deep and sheltered harbour in Castlebay combined to attract curing companies. During the herring season the whole of Castle Bay was filled with anchoring vessels and fish was exported to as far away as Germany and Russia.

In addition to the improved rights of crofters, more land was made available by the Congested Districts Board, who purchased parts of Northbay and Ardveenish from the Gordons and split them into crofts. The southern islands were deserted in the first decade of the twentieth century, with almost all of their population moving to Barra. This influx led to congestion which was particularly severe in the areas of Castlebay and Glen. The subsequent demand for more crofting land led to the so called 'Vatersay Raid', when a number of islanders occupied Vatersay, erected huts and began crofting. As a result some of the raiders were sent to prison. In 1909, after months of negotiations, the owner of Vatersay, Lady Gordon Cathcart, Colonel Gordon's widow, reluctantly sold the island to the Congested Districts Board. Vatersay was divided into crofts and distributed among the applicants. However, some of those who were most involved in the raid were rejected as crofters. The remainder of Eoligarry Farm was occupied after the First World War and eventually bought by the Department of Agriculture and

Fisheries.

Trade was, of course, severely interrupted by the First World War. Additionally, with the appearance of increasing numbers of motor boats and rationalised labour, the local small boat fishermen, who lacked the funds for modern fishing equipment, could no longer compete. The industry recovered to a certain extent between the wars but the beginning of the Second World War put an end to large scale fishing in Barra. The island women, who had previously worked as gutters and herring packers, re-oriented themselves and most of them went to Glasgow to work as domestic servants. It is estimated that after the war about 80 % of all Barra men of working age turned to the merchant navy.



Figure 1.6: Barra Airfield

The 20th century and its rapidly evolving technology also benefitted the island. The ferry service improved, providing a next-day Glasgow to Barra mail service, where previously six days had been typical, and in 1935 a commercial air service was established between Glasgow and Barra. In the early sixties Barra was connected to the national electricity supply and modern media followed. Despite these improvements, younger adults left the island for further education or employment on the mainland or at sea, only to return to the island on retirement.

Several attempts to attract businesses to the island have been made. In 1967 a factory for spectacle frames opened at Northbay House but went into liquidation two years later. There was a perfume factory at Tangusdale and a company that manufactured thermostat components. The shell grit company closed in 1996. The fish factory, Barratlantic, opened in the mid-1970s, is a thriving business and one of the biggest employers on the island. The number of full-time fishermen is rising, as is the number of boats equipped with the latest technology. Tourism and building form the other main branches of employment. Crofting is highly subsidised with grants for land improvements, fencing and agricultural machinery.

With a secondary school having opened and large funds for housing having been made available by the European Commission, Barra is now one of the very few Hebridean communities whose population has increased in recent years.

1.3 The Language Situation

In place-names, more than in any other aspect, the historical impact of former immigrant activity becomes apparent. Cumbric and Pictish, the first known languages spoken in what is now called Scotland, were overshadowed by later immigrants' languages such as Gaelic, Norse and English, which in the course of history would influence each other and be influenced by other languages such as Latin and French.

Little is known about the languages of the earliest inhabitants of Barra. Recent historical research suggests Dalriadic influence in the Inner Hebrides while the Outer Isles were Pictish.¹² It is not certain whether the Gaelic spoken by the Scots, who had emigrated from Ireland at around 500 A.D., was spoken on Barra before the arrival of the Norse settlers. With the lack of reliable early linguistic evidence, the Celtic cross-slab of Kilbar, with its Norse ornaments and inscription, is the first traceable source of any language spoken on Barra.¹³

“Eptir þorgerðu Steinars dóttur es kross sjá reistr”

‘After þorgerð, Steinar’s daughter is this cross erected’¹⁴

As this cross is dated to the beginning of the 11th century, it can be assumed that Norse was by then well established. And, while it was in the process of

¹²See A. Jennings, 1996:64.

¹³The original stone is kept in the Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh, and a replica is located in Cille Bharra, Eoligaray.

¹⁴See A. Jennings, 1996:69.

being absorbed by Gaelic in areas closer to mainland Scotland, Norse may have lasted considerably longer in the Outer Hebrides. However, it is likely that by the beginning of the 13th century it had given way to Gaelic.¹⁵ During the five hundred years of Norse cultural influence, the language was influential enough to leave its unmistakable fingerprint on the nomenclature of the Outer Hebrides.

On mainland Scotland the reinforcement of Gaelic after the collapse of Norwegian sovereignty lasted only one hundred years. From 1350 onwards the Gaidhealtachd started retreating north-westwards. After the reformation the tie between Irish and Scottish Gaelic was cut and local Gaelic dialects emerged. The decline of power of the Lord of the Isles took place in the reign of James IV, forfeiture happening in 1490. Lowland language and affairs entered the Highlands in the reign of James VI/I. The statutes of Icolmkill¹⁶, as a result of which a few Highland clans at the fringe between Highlands and Lowlands were supported by the Crown, were intended to undermine the collective power of the Gaels with the intention to finally assimilate them with the Lowlands. The sixth statute in particular shows the attitude of the Lowlanders at the time:

“The quhilk day, it being undirstood that the ignorance an incivillie of the saidis Iles hes daylie inccressit be the negligence of guid educatioun and instructioun of the youth in the knowledge of God and good letters for remeid quhair of it is inactit that every gentilman or yeaman within the said Ilandis, or any of thame, haveing childerine maill or famell, and being in goodis worth thriesore ky, sall put at the leist their eldest sone, or haveing no children maill thair eldest dochter, to the scuillis in the Lowland, and interteny and bring thame up thair quhill that may be found able sufficientlie to speik, reid, and wryte Inglische”.¹⁷

To the ruling classes English was the language of propriety, education and civilisation, whereas Gaelic epitomised the absence of these qualities. Some children of clan chiefs already attended schools in the Lowlands. During the 17th and 18th centuries, schools were introduced to the Highlands with the aim of promoting not only the English language, but also the presbyterian religion. One of the organisations running these schools was the *Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge*, the SSPCK, which targetted areas “especially in the Highlands and Islands were Error, Idolatry, Superstition and Ignorance do most abound.”¹⁸

¹⁵See A. Jennings, 1996:72.

¹⁶Iona.

¹⁷Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, 1609:28f.

¹⁸D. Murison, 1974:7–83.

At the end of the 17th century Barra accommodated one of the only two catholic schools in Scotland in which young men were prepared for the priesthood. Two SSPCK schools were opened in the Isles, one on Barra, the other on Sandray at the end of the following century. Visits by school inspectors were paid on a regular basis and their reports reveal that, despite a relative fluency in reading English texts, the children were unable to understand the meaning of what they were reading. Gaelic did not appear on the timetable. During the 18th century Gaelic was associated with “backwardness, political protest and religious dissent.”¹⁹ In the light of such an attitude it is not surprising that in 1751 the SSPCK chose to ban Gaelic – except for translation – from schools and playgrounds.

Edward MacQueen, local minister in 1794, described the language situation in Barra:

“The Gaelic is the only language commonly spoken here, and I believe the purest dialect of it to be met with in any country; though by their frequent excursions to Glasgow, the people have introduced a number of English words. Numbers of the inhabitants, who attended the school, speak English tolerably well.”²⁰

Fifty years later the New Statistical Account of Scotland shows that the situation had not changed much.

“Gaelic is the language universally spoken, and it is very pure and still unmixed with English words. The English language has made little or no progress, because schools have been wanting. [...] The parochial is the only school now in the parish. English and writing only are taught there at present, although the teacher is qualified to teach Greek, Latin, arithmetic, book-keeping, and geography; but as the school has but lately been keeping, there are no scholars as yet advanced farther than English reading.”²¹

During the 18th century there were several schools in Barra funded by different bodies. All of them, the Parish School as well as the school of the Church of Scotland Ladies’ Association, had in common that education was given with a view to gaining control over religious doctrine, and in all of them Gaelic as an independent subject was ignored. The islanders’ language was used only as an auxiliary language with which to learn English faster.

¹⁹C. W. J. Withers, 1984:2.

²⁰E. MacQueen, 1794:341.

²¹A. Nicolson, 1845:209, 215.

Although their everyday language was disregarded, the locals at the time would probably have appreciated the fact that their children had the opportunity to receive education at all, and English and Reading would be useful, not only for mainland trade, but also in emigration matters.

The Gaelic Schools Society, founded in Edinburgh in 1811, aimed to teach Highlanders to read the Bible in their native tongue. Their concept was to run a school for a period of two years in order to initiate literacy, and then move on to a different area so as to cover as much of the population as possible. From 1818 to 1825 the Gaelic Schools Society ran a school in Barra, first in Kilbar, before moving on to Greian, Bruernish and Kentangaval.

With the arrival of the Gaelic Schools Society, the SSPCK schools, which formerly had discriminated against Gaelic, changed their policy and included Gaelic reading in their curriculum. Due to lack of funding both kinds of schools had to be closed in the middle of the 19th century. Again, in the Education Act of 1872, prescribing compulsory education, Gaelic was ignored. For centuries, both schools and churches actively contributed to the anglicisation of the Gaidhealtachd.

After the First World War, attempts were made to re-establish minority languages. In the second Education Act in 1918 Gaelic, for the first time in history, was considered a proper subject and exams could even be taken in it.

When BORGSTRØM undertook his research on the *Dialect of Barra* in 1937, he provided yet another eye-witness account:

“Gaelic is the everyday language of all the native inhabitants, but most persons over six years of age can speak and understand English; most children do not know English before they go to school, and there are also a few old people who know only Gaelic. Up to some years ago English was the only language taught at school, so that very few people can read and write Gaelic.”²²

The picture would not change during the following decades. Some local informants remember that if a Gaelic teacher was provided at all, the tuition was restricted to one period a week, and pupils would receive Gaelic tuition intermittently, rather than continuously, during their school careers.

Generally Barra is regarded as one of the last strongholds of Gaelic, although its present situation is complicated. There are no monoglot Gaelic speakers left. In

²²C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:71.

recent years a growing number of native English speakers have sought and found employment on the island. However, whilst every native Gaelic speaker is at least bilingual, not every native English speaker is. As a result Gaelic can no longer be understood by everybody. In situations of language contact between Gaelic native speakers and English native speakers, English is spoken as a *lingua franca*. Even among fluent native Gaelic speakers code-switching may occasionally be observed, where a conversation is held partly in English and partly in Gaelic.

From Primary 1 onwards children spend one afternoon per week learning Gaelic. In secondary school native Gaelic speakers and non-native Gaelic learners are taught separately. In 1999 Gaelic evening classes for adult learners were offered.

1.4 Toponymic Research in the Western Isles: Origin, Development and Current State

The earliest writings on Scottish place-names appeared in newspapers in the mid 1870s. In 1876 CAPT. F. W. L. THOMAS was one of the first to explore the names of the Western Isles in *Norse Place-Names in the Hebrides*. Sixteen years later J. B. JOHNSTON undertook the first attempt at a place-names dictionary, which he called *Place-Names of Scotland*. SIR H. MAXWELL's book *Scottish Land-Names* followed in 1894. W. J. WATSON's *Place-names of Ross and Cromarty* appeared in 1904. G. HENDERSON examined the *The Norse Influence on Celtic Scotland* (1910) which, despite a few erroneous interpretations, was the earliest large scale attempt to assess the interaction of Gaelic (G) and Old Norse (ON). His conversion table of sound changes from ON to G was the first of its kind and, although not accurate, was certainly a good starting point for further research. A. MACBAIN's book, *The Norse Element in the Topography of the Highlands and Islands*, appeared the following year. The 1920s and 1930s saw further publications on Scottish place-names, including A. MACBAIN's *Place-Names in the Highlands and Islands* (1922), and a more general book published by W. C. MACKENZIE in 1931 called *Scottish Place-Names*. W. F. H. NICOLAISEN's book *Scottish Place-Names*, published in 1976, remains the standard work on the subject.

Further stepping stones in research into the place-names of the Western Isles are a number of articles published from the early 1950s onwards. In 1952 A. SOMMERFELT examined *Norse-Gaelic Contacts*. This was followed by M. OFTEDAL's articles *The Village Names of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides* (1954), *Norse Place-Names in the Hebrides* (1955), and *The Norse Place-Names in Celtic Scotland* (1959). I. A. FRASER's *Scheme for the Systematic Collection of Place-Name Material in the Hebrides* (1967) was succeeded by *Place-Names from Oral Tradition*

in the Scottish Outer Hebrides (1969) and *Norse and Gaelic Coastal Terminology in the Western Isles* (1978).

Although researchers have shown a strong interest in Barra and its satellites, they have focused on folklore, not place-names. The first written collection of place-names in the Barra group²³ is *A List Of Non-Gaelic Place-Names in the Island of Mingulay*, published in 1903 as an appendix to the article *The Norsemen in Uist Folklore*. Its collector, FR. A. McDONALD, undertook his research during the time when Mingulay was still inhabited. The only other publication on the place-names of Barra is C. HJ. BORGSTRØM's article *The Norse Place-Names of Barra*, which appeared in 1936.

Place-name collections in neighbouring Hebridean communities produced publications of varying length and quality. There is E. BEVERIDGE's *North Uist* (1911), including a section on place-names, D. MACIVER's *Place-Names of Lewis and Harris* (1934), and D. MACAULAY's *Studying the Place-Names of Bernera* (1972). In *Place-Names of the Carloway Registry, Isle of Lewis* (1987) R. A. V. COX gives a detailed insight into the nomenclature of an area in North-west Lewis and includes a thorough analysis of the place-names. R. COATES' *Place-Names of St. Kilda* (1990) and O. EYSTEINSSON's *Norse Settlement-Names in North Harris* (1992) contain further research on Hebridean place-names. Though discussing place-names in the Inner Hebrides and on the western fringe of the mainland, two more recent studies should not be ignored: *Collecting Place-Names from Oral Sources in the North-west Highlands* (1997) by R. WENTWORTH, and CH. MACLEAN's *The Isle of Mull*. Further references to relevant literature on place-names in the Inner Hebrides, the Isle of Man, and on the Northern Isles appear in the bibliography.

In 1996 the Scottish Place-Names Society was founded. Conferences take place bi-annually and help to promote communication amongst members and with other place-name societies in the United Kingdom. With a view to national and international collaboration, a committee has been formed to set up a database for the standardised collection of Scottish place-names. The fourth chapter will discuss this database.

²³Place-Names occurring in field-books of the Ordnance Survey (OS) and travel accounts are not included at this point but will be discussed in full detail in chapter 3.

1.5 Methodology

The area examined in this thesis is the Barra group as described in section 1.1.²⁴ The research covers all place-names, coastal names and field-names available at the time the field-work took place, but excludes names such as house- and street-names unless they are well established. However, names of old paths, e.g. cattle tracks, are part of the examination.

The compilation of major and minor names forms the core of the gazetteer. Its place-names are gathered from three different main sources:

- maps and sea-charts
- further written material
- interviews with local inhabitants

Map evidence, which provides the material for a diachronic analysis, is scarce. Despite the Crown's growing interest in surveying the Western Isles after the events of 1745, the first detailed sea-chart of the territory around the Barra group was not produced until 1861/62. The cartographers of the Western Isles seldom spoke the languages of their surveyed terrain. Consequently, map evidence in isolation cannot be considered a reliable source for research. Other written material, such as charters, rentals, parish registers and travel literature, provides further information on place-names. The most important work in this context is the *Ordnance Survey Object Name Book* of 1878 for the parish of Barra. Set up to collect data for the first detailed survey of place-name material in the Hebrides, the book comprises valuable information on sites of public interest, different spelling suggestions for various names, historical forms of names and, in some cases, historical background information. Other records consulted are school logbooks, gazetteers and letters. However, where historical material is fragmented its validity and reliability have to be treated with caution.

A systematic compilation of place-names would be incomplete without investigating oral evidence. An empirical collection conducted through interviews with locals proved indispensable to obtain data on microtoponymics. Many names have never occurred on printed maps before, existing only on cognitive maps in the users' minds, and have been passed on through the process of oral communication. The earliest sound recordings of place-names available in the School of

²⁴This means that all former MacNeil territory in Boisdale, South Uist, as within the old parish boundaries before 1840, is not included.

Scottish Studies were made during 1958 and 1960 when JAMES ROSS and LISA SINCLAIR interviewed various inhabitants of Barra and Vatersay. The material was extended by IAN A. FRASER, who undertook a week's recording in 1976 accompanied with substantial map-backing.

I interviewed more than 70 islanders in April and June 1995 and during a six months period from November 1995 till May 1996. Living in Barra for some time was important as it allowed me to become familiar with the area, to establish important contacts, and to access as many people as possible. My field-work was undertaken from the perspective of a Gaelic learner. At the time when the data for the gazetteer were compiled I only had a working knowledge of Gaelic so that the interviews were mainly conducted in English. Fluency in Gaelic or even Barra native speaker qualities on my behalf would almost certainly have put the informants more at ease in the initial stage, may have resulted in the provision of more place-name material and would have kept notation mistakes low. I tried to compensate for my own shortcomings by revisiting my informants on a regular basis²⁵ to discuss the collected names with them and to detect any errors at an early stage.

The choice of informants was based largely on word of mouth and the local telephone register²⁶, from which JESSIE MACNEIL, of the Barra and Vatersay Council of Social Services, identified the most promising candidates. Interviews were held in a non-standardised way shaped to the individual requirements of each informant. Ideally the informant was knowledgeable about his or her environment, interested in local history, map-literate, skilled in Gaelic orthography, and willing to be both interviewed and recorded. Four individuals fulfilled all of these demands, whilst the remaining interviews required various amounts of improvisation. When an exact spelling was difficult to establish, the name was, if not recorded, noted in phonetic transcription for temporary preservation. Most sessions were taped in order to preserve the unique Barra pronunciation, thus preparing the ground for comparative language studies.²⁷ Informants who were not comfortable reading maps provided a glossary of names, which map-literate family members or neighbours would assign to the relevant location at a later stage. In some cases walks with the informants in the countryside were the key to tracing the exact position of sites. It was of great benefit to be familiar with an area before conducting interviews with its inhabitants.

²⁵In some cases this amounted up to ten or even more visits to one informant.

²⁶Without the *Barra Phoney Book* and its extensive list of Barra people and their nick-names, research would have been difficult.

²⁷In a few instances informants would insist on not being taped. In these cases other people familiar with the sites assisted with the sound recording.

‘Brainstorming’ sessions with a small number of informants provided the highest output of place-names. The initially used early editions of OS maps proved unsuitable for field-work because they lacked relief features, and caused confusion rather than helping with orientation. They were replaced by more recent editions. The 1971 O.S. maps on a scale of 1:10 000 served as the basis for interviews. Collected names were noted in field-books, and with help of a numbering system, fixed on the map. A unique colour code identified each informant’s place-names in the books and on the maps, thus providing easy recognition of an informant’s mind map. The gazetteer²⁸ forms the basis for synchronic and diachronic research.

²⁸See chapter four.

2 From Word to Name

Place-names are part of everyday life and are communicated both orally and by the written word. They are all around us in the media, on road signs, on maps, and in travel literature. But names are not restricted to densely inhabited areas. Labelled territory is present in the countryside too, and an absence of signs should not be mistaken for an absence of names. Maps and road signs are important, but are relatively recent aids for orientation. Before literacy was established among the wider population, street signs occurred in the form of drawings, and maps were unintelligible to the ordinary man. Over the centuries information about places and their names has been transmitted orally and has been, and still is, recorded in mind-maps which each individual forms. As the perception of place and association, as well as memory capacity, differ from person to person no two mind-maps contain exactly the same information.

In the past the belief that onomastics deals only with the semantics of names has dominated, but this view is too simplistic. Although the question of meaning strongly influenced early research, the intensely discussed philosophical question of what is considered a name, the linguistic aspect of how names are structured, and the psychological motivation involved in naming strategies all contribute to the science. Consequently, onomastic research can be approached from a variety of angles.

2.1 Words and Names

2.1.1 The Terminological Situation

Despite the early reflections on names and noun phrases by Greek grammarians, the final differentiation between proper nouns and appellatives has to be attributed to Roman scholars. VARRO, 116–27 B.C., distinguishes between the Latin *nomen* and *vocabulum*, which, together with the *pronomen* and the *provocabulum*, he called the four *partes appellandi*.²⁹ By doing so he placed the *nomen*, which may be translated as name, and the *vocabulum*, which may be translated as word, on the same level and subordinated both to the class of *appellatives*. Six hundred years later PRISCIAN differentiated between *nomina propria* and *nomina appellativa*, and by contrasting *proper nouns* and *appellatives*³⁰ created a differently balanced classification from that of Varro. The current terminol-

²⁹M. T. Varro, 1951:406f.

³⁰See G. Bauer, 1985:27.

ogy is pluralistic and confusing and has led to there being a variety of different interpretations of the terms *word*, *name* and *appellative*.

ALGEO describes the present terminological difficulties as follows:

“[...] on the orthographic level, there are ORTHOGRAPHIC NAMES or CAPITALIZED WORDS, versus UNCAPITALIZED WORDS; on the morphosyntactic level, there are PROPER NOUNS versus COMMON NOUNS; on the referential level, there are SINGULAR TERMS versus GENERAL TERMS; on the semantic level, there are PROPER NAMES or simply NAMES versus COMMON NAMES or APPELLATIVES.”³¹

As a result of the confusion, terms such as *name* and *proper name*, *proper name* and *proper noun* are commonly, but mistakenly, treated as synonyms and contrasted to the category known as *common nouns*, *count nouns*, *mass nouns*, *ordinary nouns* or, synonymously used, *appellatives*.³²

In this word maze NICOLAISEN suggests making a fresh attempt at formulating the basic terminology and, by going back in history to Varro's categorisation, proposes regarding the group of *words* and the group of *names* both as independent sub-categories of the general term *appellative*. From a lexicographical point of view this would simplify the distinction between an onomasticon and a lexicon.³³ It would also make more economic use of the English language as the epithets *proper* and *common* would become redundant, and the term *noun* would no longer have to be part of the formula distinguishing words from names.

2.1.2 Similarities and Differences

Words and names cannot at their time of creation be distinguished, because both have the same origin in language. They are treated as nouns and refer to the same extralingual objects i.e. people, things, places or events. As parts of the lexical system of language they both follow the same rules concerning grammar, syntax and word-formation. Consequently names and words can both be affected by linguistic changes.

From a referential point of view there is a fundamental difference between names and words. Whereas the latter point out the general idea of an object, names

³¹J. Algeo, 1973:13.

³²See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1995:386.

³³W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1995:386.

specify a particular characteristic of one object, making it monoreferential. Words may have a determiner such as ‘each’, ‘this’, ‘a’, or ‘some’, whilst names may not. This implies that names are always definite, whereas words are either definite or indefinite. A word whose meaning has become opaque becomes unproductive and has no chance of survival. Names, however, continue to function perfectly even if their lexical meaning is lost.

Words	+	Names
<div><div></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">· same origin in language· both treated as nouns· reference to extralingual objects· similar syntax, grammar, morphology· both affected by linguistic changes</div></div>		
—		
generalise	↔	individualise
indefinite or definite	↔	definite only
option of determiner	↔	no determiner
loss if lexically meaningless	↔	if meaningless, survival possible

Although the suggested indicators of names may be applied to the majority of names, there are exceptions to the rules. Admittedly, most place-names do not have an article, cannot be translated, start with a capital letter and do not occur in plural form. However, there are so many exceptions to the above statements that they must be treated as generalisations rather than rules.

lack of article

Running contrary to the statement that the lack of an article makes a name distinguishable from a word, there are a large number of Gaelic place-names that have an article, names such as *Am Bealach* ‘the pass’, or *A’ Phalla Dhubh* ‘the black cliff’. Languages other than Gaelic also provide examples of names with articles. In German there is *der Rhein*, in Dutch there is *Den Haag*. Examples in English are *the North Sea* and *the Thames*.

- translation impos- According to modern translation theory, a name that is se-
sible mantically transparent may be translated. Reasons for trans-
lating place-names include improved fluency in literary work
and easier international usage. An example of the latter
reason is the Swedish city *Göteborg*, known in English as
Gothenburg. The same applies to the *Cape of Good Hope*,
whose name changes to *Cap de Bonne Espérance* in French
and *Kap der Guten Hoffnung* in German.
- capital initial letter To consider a capital initial letter as a safe indicator of a
name is dangerous, because this rule is not valid for all lan-
guages. This is not only true for languages which operate
with entirely different sign systems, such as Japanese or Chi-
nese. In German, for instance, all nouns start with a capital
letter, so that the distinction would not apply in Germany,
Austria or parts of Switzerland. Additionally, the converse
assertion, that no place-name starts with a lower case let-
ter, is also untrue. For instance, road signs in Holland refer to
Den Bosch as *s'Hertogenbosch*. Generally, the spelling is fixed
by the individual cartographer who also decides whether to
begin a name with an upper or a lower case letter. Addition-
ally, the identification of a place-name through its spelling
is impossible with orally perceived and transmitted names.
- names are singular Although most names are singular there are exceptions that
designate places in the plural, such as *the Alps*, *the Nether-*
lands, *the United States* and *the Hebrides*.

Nicolaisen sums up the difficulties and contradictions in the clear separation of names and words as follows.

“Words which have become names never totally cease to be words, nor
can names ever fully deny their lexical origins.”³⁴

2.1.3 Denotation and Connotation

The English philosopher J. S. MILL was the first to introduce the terms connotation and denotation in onomastic research. Although he uses a different, rather

³⁴W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1976b:142.

unusual, terminology by including nouns and adjectives, Mill's message is that names are denotative and words connotative. In his book, *System of Logic*, he describes his ideas in detail:

"... all concrete general names are connotative. The word 'man', for example, denotes Peter, Paul, John, and an indefinite number of other individuals of whom, taken as a class, it is the name. But it is applied to them because they possess, and to signify that they possess, certain attributes."³⁵

and emphasises that

"... proper names are not connotative: they denote the individuals who are called by them; but they do not indicate or imply any attributes as belonging to those individuals."³⁶

Traditionally, connotation has been assigned to the category of words and denotation to the category of names, which has led to the intense discussion as to whether or not names have meaning. According to Nicolaisen the answer to this question lies in distinguishing lexical from onomastic content and connotative from denotative function, whilst acknowledging a close relationship between meaning and function.³⁷

Names do not need lexical meaning to fulfil their function. They almost certainly will have had meaning at some point in time but whether that is transparent to the present name user or whether it has been disguised is of no importance for its application or its survival. Sometimes a locality may change its appearance so radically that the lexical meaning that its name had at the time of name-creation is no longer applicable. This is the case with the city of Düsseldorf. Once a village, it constantly grew and is now one of the largest German cities and home to several million people. The generic *-dorf*, usually designating a village, continues to function onomastically, but no longer lexically.

In name transfer the original lexical meaning of a name always loses its force, and only on an onomastic level can a transplanted place-name be considered meaningful. The lexical meaning of a name – whether transparent or not – does not affect its denotative function. Indeed, the lexical meaning may no longer be applicable because the characteristics of the reference object have changed, and

³⁵J. M. Robson, 1973:33.

³⁶J. M. Robson, 1973:35.

³⁷See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1978:42.

yet the name of a place can still be identified correctly. Nowadays, word meaning of a name and onomastic meaning rarely coincide.³⁸ The often discussed lexical and the onomastic level of names may be extended by an additional one, the associative level, located between the first two.³⁹ The lexical level, simply reflecting the dictionary meaning of the words involved in name-creation, becomes entirely independent in the onomastic level. Through association, particular choices in name-formation are made and this is the stage where connotative words become denotative names. In reverse this implies that denotative names, though onomastically independent, may still reveal characteristics of the objects to which they are attributed. *An Abhainn Ruadh* ‘the red river’, for instance, connotes a river whose ground is reddened as a result of the iron content of the water. *A’ Phalla Bhàn* ‘the white cliff’ is probably stained by birds’ droppings.⁴⁰ The associative level is accessible from the lexical one as long as the name-forming elements are transparent. Only the group of so-called ‘semi-appellative names’⁴¹ may at this point form an exception to the rule.

2.1.4 Names and Places

In order to receive a name, a place must have certain qualities. It must be identifiable and be separable from its surroundings. Additionally, its naming must be useful. Usefulness is not restricted to economic needs but encompasses the entire way of life of the people frequenting the area, and includes their tribal, religious and social requirements. STEWART calls these pre-suppositions the “principle of entity and use.”⁴²

A place-name and the actual place that it refers to, the so-called name object, are not identical. Although a place-name presumes a place and unnamed territory sometimes requires a name, the terms can not be interchanged, but have to be treated as separate items. The name is the linguistic expression for the physical place to which it is attributed. The name and the name object are interdependent and form what may be described as the idea of a place.

Both the name and the place it designates can independently be subject to change. A name may fall out of use and be replaced, although the place continues to exist. In other cases a name can survive, although the feature it originally designated may have disappeared in the meantime. Examples of the latter may be a forest

³⁸See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1978:42.

³⁹See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1976b:161f.

⁴⁰Further examples in R. A. V. Cox, 1987:88f.

⁴¹The term is extensively discussed in V. Dalberg, 1985.

⁴²G. R. Stewart, 1975:8ff.

that had to give way to a motorway, or a path that has fallen out of use and has become overgrown.⁴³

A place may have several competing names, inspired either by a variety of ethnic groups inhabiting the same area, or given by members sharing the same cultural background but living in different communities. In Barra it is not uncommon to find several different names in use for one geographical entity. In all known cases these entities are located on or close to township boundaries and consequently must have been in the geographical scope of at least two communities. An informant in Garrygall remembered three different names for a bay located south-west of Beinn nan Càrnan: *Bàgh na Teileagraf*, 'telegraph bay', *Port a' Bhualte*, 'harbour of the hut', and *Bàgh Hòraid*, an obsolete name. The name *Bàgh na Teileagraf* can be directly linked to Barra's telegraph connection, which was established in 1884, and is probably the youngest of the three. *Port a' Bhualte* is the name that residents of Garrygall applied to the place, whereas people living in Breivig used *Bàgh Hòraid*, a name most likely of ON origin. I collected five different names for a small, but strikingly located island in the harbour of Northbay. The island, too small to be of any economic use, and too far inland to serve as a nautical point, is visible from the main road junction connecting the East and West roads with the northern route to the airport and Eoligarry. The island is known under the names of *Eilean nan Gàadh* 'geese island', *Eilean na Craoibh* 'tree island', *Statue Island*, *An t-Eilean Beag* 'small island', and *Eilean nan Rodan* 'island of the rats'.

Conversely, one name can be attributed to a number of different locations. For instance on Barra there is a large number of places called *A' Bheinn Mhór* 'the big mountain', *An Sgeir Dhubh* 'the dark or black skerry', and *An Tobar Ruadh* 'the red well'. Despite the large number of recurring names it is uncommon for any one township to be host to more than one entity carrying a particular name. As a place-name consists of both label and entity, frequently occurring names, such as *An Tobhta Ruadh* 'the red ruin' or *An Rubha Dubh* 'the dark headland', will be treated as several names and therefore be listed in the database as separate entries.

According to the principle of entity and use, innumerable places lack names simply because they are of no interest to humans and there is therefore no need for them to be labelled. A new approach towards places and names may be observed in the U.S. American "wilderness areas"⁴⁴, protected territory that is untouched by civilisation. In order to preserve the unspoilt character of a wild landscape, naming is actively discouraged.

⁴³See P. Hallaråker, 1986:117.

⁴⁴See R. L. Payne: 1995: Art. 172.

2.2 Definitions

Many disciplines draw heavily on onomastic research. Examples are archaeology, history, linguistics, geography, sociology and psychology. The interdisciplinary nature of onomastics has led to there being a variety of definitions of the term 'name'.

To historians and archaeologists names are pieces of a historic jigsaw and "as valuable as old fragments of pottery."⁴⁵ Geographers and cartographers will consider names to be designations of territory-structuring features with labelling character. Seen from a sociologist's perspective place-names give insights into the habits, customs and beliefs of the people who created them. The psychologist will focus on naming-strategies, the information they reveal and the means of name acquisition involved. From a linguistic point of view names are linguistic signs. As structured units within the system of language they follow their own lexical, grammatical, morphological and syntactical rules. Nevertheless, when they are formed, names have the same characteristics as words, with the additional purpose of being usable in an onomastic context.

In his book on local collection and archiving of place-names⁴⁶ HALLARÅKER collected the most common definitions for the term 'place-name'. The majority of them emphasise the geographical component in names, defining place-names as the name of a place (geographical location) or as "names of geographical locations of all sorts."⁴⁷

"Place-names are names of territorial points, lines or areas that are or may be map-fixed. A place-name tells what a larger or smaller geographical entity is called."⁴⁸

To Stewart possible map-fixation is not a place-name defining aspect. He considers a place-name to be "a word or words used to indicate, denote or identify a place"⁴⁹ and defines a 'place' as follows:

"A place, [...], is any area which an observing consciousness, whether human or animal, distinguishes and separates, by whatever means, from other areas. The boundaries may be precise or vague; they may

⁴⁵E. C. Smith, 1966:493.

⁴⁶P. Hallaråker, 1995:176.

⁴⁷J. Sandnes, 1976:233.

⁴⁸P. Hallaråker, 1997:191f.

⁴⁹G. R. Stewart, 1975:4.

be physical and concrete or mental and imaginary. A place may be a natural feature or a human construction.”⁵⁰

Both HELLELAND and OLSEN argue for an associative element in their definitions and include the actual user of the place-name in the equation.

“Place-names are a word or group of words that trigger an association of the place the name refers to within a larger or smaller amount of people.”⁵¹

“A place-name is a word or group of words that within a larger or smaller community of certain stability in a situation of contact momentarily releases the idea of a certain place.”⁵²

The above-mentioned quotations are bound to suffer from shortcomings, mainly by concentrating on one or two defining aspects only. This is not surprising as most scholars focus only on their own discipline, and fail to grasp the interdisciplinary nature of names that permits a variety of different angles for a possible definition. But, although minimal and certainly imprecise, the quoted definitions supply a starting point for the inquiry as to the true nature of a name.

A further definition is provided by COX:

“In origin the place-name stems from the appellative. The process whereby the latter is raised to the status of the former is effected when an appellative ceases to be merely descriptive, but by frequent citation with reference to a particular feature, and with unconscious agreement on the part of the community, comes to refer to both feature **and** location. Thereupon it acquires the quality and function of a place-name.”⁵³

Cox targets the aspects of origin, association and reference, but neglects the initial necessity of identifying a suitable place for possible baptism. Additionally, the question of the origin of names is doubtful. If a place-name always had to have an origin in an appellative, the increasing number of manufactured place-names, fantasy creations, would no longer qualify as place-names. The place-name *Tolono*, for instance, was invented by J. B. Calhoun, who intended to create

⁵⁰G. R. Stewart, 1975:3f.

⁵¹B. Helleland, 1975:16.

⁵²M. Olsen, 1978:41.

⁵³R. A. V. Cox, 1987:23.

a beautiful sounding place-name “by placing the vowel o three times, o-o-o, and filling in with the consonants t-l-n.”⁵⁴ This name cannot be traced back to any meaningful word, but still it functions as a name.

The following definition of the term *name* will form the terminological base for the current examination:

A place-name is a label that in its spoken or written form designates an identified location, real or imaginary, and reflects the culture and history of an area. The application of a label to a user's association of place eases reference and provides a basis for communication.

2.3 Function of Names

The three functions of names that will be examined in this study are the labelling, the communicative and the identity-creating functions.

2.3.1 Labelling Function

Places that have been labelled help to structure and specify the surrounding territory and provide orientation. No matter whether the names are stored in individuals' mind-maps or written on physical maps, the territory has been noticed, separated from its surroundings and deemed worthy of being labelled. Labels help to avoid lengthy, clumsy or complicated descriptions. They ease recognition and simplify reference.

Through the act of naming, that large North German town near the mouth of the River Elbe with its international port and world-famous entertainment quarter is identified as *Hamburg*. By applying a label to the place, the name *Hamburg* is associated with that German port and may be recognised even on an international level.

2.3.2 Communicative Function

“Names do not merely distinguish referents from alternatives, among other things they seem to also provide descriptions of their referents, communicate a range of speaker goals and attitudes toward the interlocutors (linguistically and otherwise).”⁵⁵

⁵⁴See G. R. Stewart, 1975:140ff.

⁵⁵J. M. Carroll, 1985:52.

Closely interwoven with the function of labelling is the function of communication, and the need for place-names is as old as communication itself. Whereas labelling is merely the baptismal act of naming, in communication names become reference points.

When an individual assigns a new name or learns an existing name for a geographical entity, that geographical entity is accepted into the individual's perception. Naming means integrating a place into a system of referential points known to a larger or smaller user-group. Depending on the context of communication interlocutors can refer to a place in a variety of different codes.

In an administrative context, such as the news, title deeds or in government documents, places will be referred to by their official name.

Before the re-unification of Germany in 1989 East Germany would correctly be referred to as the *Deutsche Demokratische Republik* or *DDR*. The term *Ost Deutschland* was preferred by inhabitants of West Germany, whereas inhabitants of East Germany tended to go with the official version. *Sowjetisch besetzte Zone*, 'soviet occupied territory', or the German abbreviation for that term, *Ostzone*, or just *Zone*, were names with a dismissive connotation and used by people who disapproved of or mocked the then existing political system.

Another example will clarify how different names are applied by different users depending on the context of communication. In the northwest of Barra, between Aird Greian and An Sgeir Liath, lies a beach for which the Ordnance Survey maps do not provide a name. Among islanders, especially locals of the adjoining townships of Allasdale, Greian and Cleat, the bay is known as *Bàgh nan Ròn*, 'bay of the seals'. When Gaelic-speaking locals talk to non-Gaelic speakers they usually refer to the place as *Seal Bay*, a mere translation of the name into English. *Bàgh nan Ròn* is used in an abbreviated version, *Am Bàgh*, 'the bay', among members of the tight-knit community of Allasdale. This restricted user-group, who communicate almost on a daily basis, share approximately the same mind-horizon. For this reason they can communicate in a different language code from non-locals, and while using a shorter and more efficient name, still be sufficiently precise to be understood by members of their township. By labelling a place in the immediate vicinity *Am Bàgh*, the Allasdale residents describe the closest and most familiar beach on their territory so that the qualification that seals are part of the natural habitat is not required. The closer the group of interlocutors, the more abbreviated the name can be while still acting as a monoreferential label. The fact that within small user groups, names acquire almost the quality of words, such as 'the Beach', 'the Bay', 'the Meadow' or 'the Mountain', does not interfere with their function as proper names. What may appear to be a word to

an incomer, functions as a name to a resident. As the context of communication varies, a place can have several names, each of which exists in its own right, and in the context of the bay in question, these are *Bàgh nan Ròn*, *Seal Bay* and *Am Bàgh* depending on the situation of communication.

Since name-creating individuals or communities in most cases supply names only within a given area, which can be considered a reference unit, a number of duplicate names may occur within wider areas where reference units overlap. Examples on Barra are *An Sgeir Bheag*, ‘the small skerry’, and *A’ Bheinn Mhór*, ‘the big mountain’, which designate a number of different places. The recurring names will be given by people inhabiting different reference units. In the Hebrides, features carrying the same name are distinguished by adding the name of the township on whose land the entity is found. This results in names such as *Ben Leribreck Glen* and *Ben Leribreck Cheann Tangabhail*.

2.3.3 Creation of Identity

Communication and reference are aspects closely linked with the identity-forming function in naming. Through the process of naming, identity can be assigned to both the inhabitants of a place and the location itself. Once a place has been identified as a unit and subsequently labelled, it is distinguishable from all other similar looking places and its name may be applied within smaller or larger user-groups.

“Naming establishes a personal relation and stresses the individuality of the entity named.”⁵⁶

Memorising a name and including it in one’s mind-map helps form an identity of place. A personal relationship is established between the entity, the name-creator and the name-users. The aspect of identity for instance, is one of the main reasons for the transfer of names into newly settled territory. In order for settlers to feel at home wilderness had to be named quickly, and the import of existing names was an effective way of remembering dear and familiar places in one’s homeland.

Both naming and recognition of a given name have an identity-giving function and contribute to the uniqueness of the named entity. Out of all existing skerries, a named one, e.g. *An Sgeir Liath*, ‘the grey-blue skerry’, is distinguished from all other skerries in the vicinity and can be referred to individually as *that* particular skerry. Names exist in a human context. They are parts of networks or onomastic

⁵⁶See L. Zgusta, 1995:1876.

fields. *An Sgeir Liath* would hardly have been given that name if the namer had not perceived its colour to be greyer than at least that of the neighbouring skerry. In onomastic fields entities compete with or support each other and thus obtain identity.

People create, by naming their surrounding area, not only an identity of the territory, but an identity of their own. By structuring an unfamiliar place they structure their lives. And if names for geographical features are not available from earlier settlers they have to be made up quickly for one's own peace of mind.

"Naming is survival. Namelessness spells oblivion."⁵⁷

Revealing how an area was once perceived by its inhabitants, place-names are indicators of historical heritage. The names – once coined by people who lived and worked on the land – can influence later settlers by conveying a sense of cultural continuity.

The settlers' attitude towards a place, and their acceptance of it as a home, is an important factor for naming. If the land has not been handed down from generation to generation, but acquired relatively recently, perhaps only with a view to maximising economic return, then a different and less stable place-names fabric can be expected as compared to that which might be found on inherited soil.⁵⁸

As much as first name and family name reveal about personal characteristics of an individual and their family background, an address, too, is considered a substantial and important identity-forming attribute. For that reason the psychological effect that an offensive or unappealing place-name as part of an address has on people should not be underestimated. The fear of having an address that includes a low status name has frequently led to residential protests.⁵⁹ This shows how much people identify with their surroundings and the names attached to them.

2.4 Name-creators

Having discussed a number of philosophical and historical aspects of naming, the question arises of who are the people who coin the names for their surroundings.

⁵⁷W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1982:96.

⁵⁸See A. Kruse, 1996.

⁵⁹P. Hallaråker applies the term 'low status name' (*lågstatusnamn*) to unwanted names and both he and Dalberg give vivid accounts of various place-names that residents were opposed to. P. Hallaråker: 1997, p. 168f., also in V. Dalberg: 1985, p. 134f.

Most names are formed by individuals, but for a place to be accepted as a reference point it has to be approved by at least one other person. Through being used within a family, or other restricted group of people, a designation may develop into a widely accepted name.

Some groups play a more active role in place-naming than others. For instance, people who work the land, or who fish along the coastline, make active use of the land or the sea and thus have a far greater need for names than, say, teachers or shop-assistants. To fishermen and crofters a detailed knowledge of land or sea is essential for their livelihood and for safety. The former will know of features such as dangerous rocks, the latter will be aware of features such as underground streams or hollows, and in each case they will have names by which to refer to these features.

The land-owning aristocracy and the churches were once powerful enough to play a large part in the process of name-creation. Nowadays they have lost much of their influence.

Going even further back, the discovery of every continent, country or island triggered off a new wave of name-creation. The naming patterns adopted by some individual explorers reveal strong tendencies towards commemorative names, often the names of rulers, but also those of relatives, friends, and – of course – themselves, too.

“The *Bermudas* islands were discovered by Juan Bermudas in 1527; they were also called *Somers’ Islands*, as Sir George Somers was cast on them in 1609. *Byron Island* was discovered by Byron in 1765; *Baffin’s Bay* by Baffin in 1616; and the *Mackenzie River* by Mackenzie in 1789 [...].”⁶⁰

That explorers imposed not only their names on unexplored territory, but occasionally also replaced already existing names through ignorance or vanity, is illustrated by the following example:

“A group of islands near the southern extremity of America, was discovered by Sir John Davies, and he called it *Davies’s South Land*; it was also discovered by Hawkins, who called it *Hawkins’s Maiden Land*, by Sebald de Wert, who named the islands the *Sebaldines*; by a native of St. Malo, who called them the *Malouines*; by a navigator from the Low Countries, who gave them the name *Belgic Austral*; and

⁶⁰ A. Hume, 1851:29.

by another Englishman who gave the permanent name, the *Falkland Islands*.⁶¹

Not only the people who discovered, who owned or who worked the land were involved in the naming process. Travellers and merchants who regularly used long distance routes also contributed to naming. Along their routes prominent features, resting places, and dangerous or beautiful areas received names which then would be passed on to other wayfarers.

Nowadays governments on whose territory unnamed areas are found supervise their naming, and may also interfere with arbitrarily applied names. Mass-naming by individuals has been discouraged.

Most large-scale name-creation is undertaken by government bodies or council committees. Official bodies become active in the naming process when confusion arises as to which name should be applied to a locality. This may be the case when two villages grow together. The decision on whether to create a double-barrelled name, use one of the existing names, or choose an entirely new name then lies with the authorities.

Few private individuals now have the chance to take an active part in naming their surroundings unless they concentrate on microtoponymics. This is, in part, due to the fact that these days most areas in the world are more densely populated than ever before and will already have been subject to intense naming, and in part due to the dominance of the written word, manifested in mapped names, which impedes name-changes.

The most productive areas where new names are still required are the growing number of suburban settlements. The fashionable act of naming family homes provides another opportunity for people to create place-names. New names are also required in mining, for designating oil fields, and in mountaineering, where names are given to individual sections of rocks.

Naming as a sign of creativity is valued by onomasticians in different ways. Opinions range from regarding the local population as composers and place-names as a form of poetry⁶², to regrets that present naming suffers from a lack of imagination and innovation.

⁶¹A. Hume, 1851:29.

⁶²See P. Hallaråker, 1987:41.

2.5 Naming Strategies

The strategies involved in the process of name formation are complex. Depending on circumstances they can be intentional or unintentional. The demand for names can affect an entire previously unsettled region, a deserted location that is due to be re-settled, or an inhabited area whose community territory is already covered with a name fabric.

Naming patterns reflect the psychological, political, economical, geographical, cultural and emotional condition of namers. Stewart acknowledges this when he observes that empty, nameless territory can evoke strikingly different naming patterns depending on the circumstances and mentality of the settling people. The traditional culture of the settlers strongly determines their choice of place-names. Pious people produce a religiously oriented nomenclature. A strong sense of personal property, as reflected in Anglo-Saxon and in Scandinavian place-names, results in a higher frequency of possessive names. And, finally, amongst peoples with a vivid memory of the past, such as the Maoris, names reflecting historical incidents will dominate. However, place-names, and the name-forming process that precedes them, depend largely on the geographical layout of the unnamed territory. A landscape consisting of a hilly, indented coastline with varying soils, a number of rocks, skerries and streams produces a different naming pattern than a desert, or, for example, the great plains of the North-American Midwest.⁶³

2.5.1 Reflective and Non-reflective Naming

There are two contrasting types of naming, the non-reflective and the rational. In the non-reflective approach the namer is led by emotion and an associative attitude, and his experience and imagination are reflected in an uncontrolled choice of name. For instance, a stream can have different names for its source, its middle section and its mouth. The namer does not see the river as a whole and consequently only that section of the river relevant to the namer receives a label. Even on an island like Barra, where sizeable streams are lacking, this phenomenon can be observed. The same concept, of an entity too large to be grasped by an individual just by means of natural senses, applies also to chains of mountains. Whereas an individual hill or mountain would receive its name at an early stage, the entire mountain-range would be difficult to experience as a whole and would consequently be named considerably later. Large geographical units such as rivers, mountain-ranges and even oceans, that an individual could

⁶³See A. Kruse, 1996:262f.

not experience as a whole within a limited amount of time, used to be divided into various identifiable sections, each carrying a different name.

A rational attitude towards place-names can be observed in systematic naming, which can occur in the form of name clusters. Naming a whole district according to a theme is a younger trend. Varying generics, but stable specifics generate name fields such as *Ferniehill Avenue*, *Ferniehill Drive*, *Ferniehill Gardens*, *Ferniehill Grove*, *Ferniehill Place*, *Ferniehill Road*, *Ferniehill Square*, *Ferniehill Street*, *Ferniehill Terrace* and *Ferniehill Way* in Edinburgh. In these names what is usually the generic becomes the specific. Clustering is an economical, but extremely unimaginative, way of naming. The psychological motivation behind rational naming, by creating so-called hodonymic fields, is to provide structure in order to ease learning of names and orientation. Although it is easy to remember where certain hodonymic fields are located within a city, the orientation within one of these fields may prove to be extremely difficult. This is due to saturation by the recurring specific and the lack of graphemic and phonemic differentiation. The extent to which name clusters are applied in larger cities is not repeated on Barra, although smaller name fields, as in *Scurrival Point*, *Dùn Scurrival*, *Tràigh Scurrival* and *Ben Scurrival*, may be identified. By designating a variety of geographical entities their level of differentiation is higher than in the former clustering situation.

The German place-name *Immenstadt* provides another example of rational naming. The original name *Immendorf* was changed to *Immenstadt* in 1618. As soon as a place managed to accommodate the required number of inhabitants, and the economic power to support itself, it was given the opportunity to call itself *Stadt*. The old generic then becomes redundant, but does not necessarily disappear as the example *Stadt Hildesheim* illustrates.

Applying a numbering system in naming reflects another organised and rational, though dull, attitude in naming. With the increase in literacy among the population, numbering systems for house and street names grew in usefulness, the latter becoming extraordinarily popular in the United States. Numericals in British place-names range from *One Hole* (BUC) to *Thousand Acres* (DOR, HMP, HRT). Some numbers, especially the biblical ones, three, four and twelve, but also the 'lucky seven' are particularly popular among place-names containing numerals. Names, for instance, including the number four, appear in an amazing variety in names including *Four Ashes*, *Four Crosses*, *Four Lees* (YOW), *Four Forks*, *Four Lanes*, *Four Marks*, *Four Mile Bridge*, *Four Oaks* (LEI, WAR), *Fourpenny*, *Fourstones* (NTB) and *Four Throws*.⁶⁴ Generics within this group often designate

⁶⁴For examples of field-names containing numbers see J. Field, 1972.

important traffic routes, such as junctions and bridges, distances between two places, rentals once charged and groups of prominent hard-wood trees.

2.5.2 Description

The simplest way of creating a name for a nameless feature is by means of description. A well containing an above average amount of iron is consequently named *An Tobar Ruadh*, ‘the red well’. A lake that is covered with algae and whose bottom cannot be seen is called *An Loch Dubh*, ‘the dark lake’. Words for topographical features form an extensive reservoir, a name pool, from which an appropriate name can be chosen for a designated entity. Thus words for mountains, islands, settlements or other features can be extracted and used either in simplex form or, combined with a suitable specific, as generics in compound names. Within descriptive names the number of combinations is essentially unlimited.

“They [descriptive names] are the natural major resources for would-be namers, even when the nature of the new terrain demands modifications in their connotation and creative semantic shifts.”⁶⁵

Despite the considerable scope for variation within the composition of descriptive names, there is always the risk of choosing names which already exist. Similar names can be distinguished from each other by adding other qualifying elements. These qualifying elements can vary considerably as illustrated by the following examples:

Distinction by:

township:	Ben Leribreck Glen	↔	Ben Leribreck Cheann Tangabhail
county:	Oldenburg / Oldenburg	↔	Oldenburg / Holstein
river:	Newcastle upon Tyne	↔	Newcastle-under-Lyme
historic context:	Deutsch-Nienhof	↔	Dänisch-Nienhof
relative location:	Upper Dallachy	↔	Nether Dallachy

In section 5.1 descriptive place-names in the Barra group are discussed in detail.

⁶⁵W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1982:97.

2.5.3 Transfer

Name transfer has been known since Roman times. Its frequency increased from 1000 A.D. onwards connected with the growing mobility of peoples. The crusades, trade on land and at sea, and the discovery of the New World and subsequent mass emigration led to a further increase in names being exported. This was assisted by improved education leading to higher levels of literacy among large parts of the population and extended geographical awareness.

The terminology is pluralistic. Eponymised names, transplanted or transplaced names, and imported names are terms frequently mentioned in the discussion of name transfer.

2.5.3.1 Transferred and Transplanted Names

The group of transferred names, according to KRUSE,⁶⁶ includes names of persons, ideas, or mythical places which are adopted as place-names. Names in this group represent national involvement or reflect biblical or classical motifs. Although British maps offer biblical references such as *Bethlehem Hill* (GLO), *Jerusalem* (CAM, CHE, WML, YOE) and *Jericho* (CHE, CUM, SHR),⁶⁷ none of these transferred names may be found on Barra.

Transplanted names are “ready-made names”⁶⁸ that emigrants exported from their homeland to the colonies. The transplanted name is “consciously chosen from a range of existing names to label a location at a different place. The choice of name is determined by association or so-called secondary connotation.”⁶⁹ In most cases transplanted names show the namers’ intention to continue a connection with a base in their homeland.

On Barra there are some ON names that have Norwegian counterparts, but whether they have been transplanted, which would imply that the word meaning of the commemorative name need not always match the locality to which it is assigned, or whether they are mere descriptions in a language once spoken on the islands, will be examined at a later stage in this thesis.

Whilst recognising the differentiation between transplanted and transferred names, the traditional, broad terminology, which includes both groups under the umbrella term of ‘transferred names’, is sufficiently precise in the context of this thesis.

⁶⁶A. Kruse, 1996:257.

⁶⁷Further examples in J. Field, 1972.

⁶⁸A. Kruse, 1996:256.

⁶⁹R. Rentenaar, 1995:1013.

2.5.3.2 Transfer of Generics

Within the overall classification of name transfer, distinction should be made between the simple transfer of names⁷⁰ and the transfer of productive elements or patterns of word formation. ON generics such as *-fjall*, *-ey*, *-vík*, *-klettr*, *-holm*, *-sker* and *-nes* occur frequently, and form part of names like *Heaval*, *Lingay*, *Tresivick*, *A' Chleit*, *Greanamul*, *Innisgeir* and *Rosinish*.

The majority of mountain names in the Barra group contain variations of the the ON generic *-fjall*, smaller headlands carry names ending in *-nes*, and the names of some small islets include the element *-holm*. Other generics imported from Scandinavia experienced great popularity on Barra. An example of this is the generic *-gjá*, which may be found in a number of names for gullies on the islands lying to the south of Barra mainland. The transfer of place-name forming elements from their country of origin to a new territory, and their rapid and independent spread there, are subjects which merit further investigation.

2.5.3.3 Transfer of Name Types

A transfer of name-type takes place when a place-name from the homeland is semantically correctly applied to a similar looking feature in the new territory. Without referring to a specific place in the old country, the place-name is used to label a particular group of features and may – because of its semantic transparency – easily be traced back to its word meaning.

Twenty-eight Hebridean islands carry the name *Orosay* or one of its derivations.⁷¹ All of them have in common that they are attached to a larger island at low tide and that they become independent islands at high tide. The name *Orosay* is derived from ON *Ørfirisey*, 'tidal island'. In the Barra group three out of four islands named *Orosay* share the same characteristics. They are all tidal islands of approximately the same size, and they are of similar altitude, with the maximum height difference between any two being only 7 m. Additionally, they are all covered with a thin layer of grass, and they all slope rather moderately into the sea. The fourth island called *Orosay* is tidal, but is twice as large and twice as high as the others.

There are other islands in the Barra group that appear to be tidal, for instance, *Uinessan*, east of *Vatersay*, *Biruaslum*, west of *Vatersay*, and the middle rock of southern *Flodday*. These islands may be tidal, but in order to be called *Orosay* an island has to have all of the above mentioned qualities, not just one.

⁷⁰As discussed in section 2.5.3.1.

⁷¹See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1978:45f.

Summing up, not all tidal islands in the Barra group are called *Orosay*, but the ones that are, resemble each other considerably. That the name *Orosay* occurs four times in such a restricted area is most peculiar and hints at an automatic transfer of name-type. The same pattern applies to the two small islets named *An Laogh*, 'the calf', of which one is located north of Muldoanich and the other one north of Hellisay. The principle of calling a small, striking rock in the vicinity of a large island 'the calf' is adopted from Scandinavia. Here the main distinguishing characteristic is the striking difference in size.

2.5.3.4 Motivation for Transfer

The main reasons for transfer of names are nostalgia, prestige of the original name, and positive or negative associations connected with a place.

Each category is discussed below.

Nostalgia

The desire to be reminded of home is the main motivation for commemorative naming. New, unknown territory has a frightening character until names are established there. A structured area helps people to feel comfortable. The transfer of names offers quick results in terms of making settlers feel at home.

The U.S.A. and Canada have the highest proportion of imported names. Over the last few centuries millions of immigrants from various ethnic groups took with them their dear and familiar homeland names and applied them to new territory. Thus in North America may be found a colourful constellation of place-names of French, Spanish, Greek, Scottish, Scandinavian and other origins. Places which lie thousands of miles from each other on the European continent, might then have North American namesakes lying within close proximity of each other.

From the age of discovery onwards names have been transferred from Europe to the New World and, to a lesser extent, from the New World to Europe. An example of the latter, reflexive name-transfer into European territory, is given by BACH:

Frederick the Great prevented German farmers from emigrating to America, although some of them had already been waiting in ports for the crossing. Given new land in Germany for cultivation, the farmers founded new villages and named them after their intended destinations in America.⁷² Names such as *Pennsyl-*

⁷²A. Bach, 1954:407.

vanien, *Philadelphia*, *Maryland*, *Florida*, and *Jamaika* in Germany are reminders of this historical event. In Britain there is *Georgia* in Cornwall. During the transfer these names lost all lexical meaning and the linguistic history responsible for their coinage is no longer relevant. The same applies to names such as *Strelitz* (PER) and the plentiful *Waterloos* spread all over Britain after the Napoleonic Wars.

After 1870 fourteen villages in America were called *Bismarck*, reflecting the strong ties that German expatriates felt for their homeland. Transforming a personal name into a place-name without adding a topographical generic is a common means of name creation. Names of politicians and explorers rank among the most popular choices in this category. As pointed out by Nicolaisen⁷³ several shifts from place-name to personal name and back to place-name are possible.

Commemorative names are most often chosen by the people who inhabit a place, although there are examples of place-names that were applied by neighbouring communities such as *Little Italy* in the United States. Place-naming motivated by nostalgia occurs not only in long-term emigration situations, but also where namers stayed temporarily abroad and on their return brought with them names which they then applied to features at home, most often estates, farms or houses.

Prestige

The transfer of French names into German territory towards the end of the 17th century was motivated mainly by the prestigious connotations that the use of French evoked. For social reasons, but also as a result of the fashionable use of French at European courts, the transfer of names was strongly influenced by the aristocracy.

Most often French names were applied to palaces and castles as a consequence of the ruling classes copying the naming strategies of Louis XIV, and resulted in names such as *Sanssouci* in Potsdam and *Solitude* in Stuttgart in Germany. *Bellevue*, used as an elegant name for a beauty spot, falls into the same category. The application of a prestigious name to a location was often intended to create a new intellectual or exclusive centre. Choosing a French name in British or German territory most certainly served to suggest that the owners or inhabitants of a place belonged to a privileged social group. In Britain, where the influence of French on the English language and British toponymy increased after the Battle of Hastings in 1066, a number of unchanged French place-names may be identified. These include *Beaufort* (Wales), *Beaulieu* (HMP), *Beaumaris* (north of Bangor),

⁷³W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1976b:155.

Beaumont (ESX), *Beaumont* (CUM), *Belvedere* (London south) and *Belvoir* (LEI).

Transfer as result of positive / negative associations

Positive or negative impressions that people have of certain places can lead to a form of name transfer in which the existing name of a place is officially kept, whilst the transferred or borrowed name acquires nick-name status.

A district in the city of Braunschweig in Lower Saxony, Germany, is nicknamed *Die Bronx* due to its higher rate of crime in comparison with the rest of the town. Here the socio-cultural situation of the inhabitants is commented on through choice of name.

On Barra a settlement on the peninsula of Bruernish is known as *Little England*, a name once given by islanders because of the number of holiday homes owned by English people. Although circumstances have changed, and most English people have sold their houses in the area, the name is still remembered and occasionally used.

2.5.4 Other Naming Strategies

A place bearing an associative name can be distinguished from other locations carrying the same generic by application of a distinctive specific which describes the named location. An example of that on Barra is *Drochaid nan Coineanach*, 'bridge of the rabbits'.

Incidents form a fruitful base for name creation. In Barra some of the most striking names describe rocks that were involved in shipping accidents.

Possessive names pointing at ownership can frequently be found throughout the island, especially when denoting houses. On Vatersay all ponds are named after people who once occupied, or who still occupy, the crofts on which the ponds are located.

Commendatory names are intended to create a good effect. The belief that a name influences its name-object, and can turn a dangerous place into a pleasant and calm place, runs through many cultures. The name *Cape of Good Hope* was applied to the south coast of Africa, location of many shipping accidents, in order to exorcise the bad magic.⁷⁴ In the Hebrides, too, this phenomenon may be

⁷⁴See A. Bach, 1954:552.

observed: Off Barra there is a dangerous, submerged rock called *Bogha Bheannachan*, ‘the reef of blessings’, possibly indicating the act of blessing oneself to ensure a safe journey.

2.6 Change of Name

A change of name takes place when an old name is discontinued or even lost and a new name is either adopted or assigned.⁷⁵ Place-names, like words, are subject to change. Name change can be intentional or unintentional, usually affects some groups of names more than others, and may be influenced by a variety of extra- or intralinguistic factors.

Three different categories of name change may be identified. These are apparent or fictitious change, partial change, and total change.⁷⁶

2.6.1 Apparent or Fictitious Change

When one of two names on the same hierarchical level increases its scope and the status of the other one is lowered, an apparent change of name can take place. An increase in population can lead to a number of villages joining together with the name of the village containing the cultural nucleus being retained and the scope of this name extending to the surrounding settlements. As a consequence the names of the smaller villages are degraded to district names within the larger community or even lost. Having been swallowed by the village of *Eoligarra*, the name *Kilbar*, once designating a settlement in North Barra, was degraded to become the street name *Cille-Bharra*.

The same applies to *Horough*, which was once a small, but independent settlement between Bāgh Beag and Castle Bay. It was first mentioned in the Barra parish register in 1852, some years before Castlebay was mentioned. Although it is signposted and still used in postal address, *Horough* seems to have been swallowed by Castlebay.

In contrast to total change of name, which happens as a chronological sequence within a given area, apparent change of name is a result of a geographical shift.⁷⁷

⁷⁵E. Neuß, 1986:327.

⁷⁶See E. Neuß, 1986:336.

⁷⁷R. Bleier, 1987:127.

2.6.2 Partial Change

In partial change substitution or entire loss of some morphological parts of a name occurs, whilst other parts are retained. The most frequent changes of this type involve the replacement of generics and the loss of applications.

On Barra *Bogachnafalladh*, as listed the Parish Register of 1823, has been shortened to *Bogach* in spoken and in written language.

Bogachnafalladh → *Bogach*

A settlement on the west side of Barra is now called *Grean*, but Parish Register entries show that the village was once divided into *North Green* and *South Green*.

A partial change of name is not restricted to the reduction of elements only. In tautologies such as *Bàgh Huilavagh*, the primary name Huilavagh is extended by adding another, this time Gaelic, generic.⁷⁸

2.6.3 Total Change

A total change of name occurs when a continuously inhabited place receives an entirely new name which differs considerably from the original one.⁷⁹ Total name changes are most often politically motivated and, in comparison with the preceding two groups, occur rarely. An example in this category is:

Byzantium → *Constantinople* → *Istanbul*

The city of Byzantium as centre of the Byzantine Empire kept its name until 330 A.D. when it was changed to Constantinople. This name remained in use for more than 1000 years until Mohammed II conquered the city in 1453 and renamed it *Istanbul*. As this example shows, an officially chosen name can sometimes abruptly replace an existing name.

The name of the Hebridean village of *An t-Òb*, ‘bay with narrow inlet’, or *Obbe* in its anglicised version, was changed to honour of Lord Leverhulme’s achievements. As an established businessman he bought Lewis and Harris during the First World War with the intention of developing the islands’ economy by improving harbour

⁷⁸Tautologies are discussed in detail in chapter 7.

⁷⁹E. Neuß, 1986:342.

facilities and introducing loan schemes to local fishermen. In December 1920 the village was officially renamed *Leverburgh*. Although in the long term Lord Leverhulme's plans failed and the islands were eventually sold on, the name *Leverburgh* remained.

A more detailed picture of the variety of place-name change emerges when extra- and intralinguistic factors are examined.

2.6.4 Extralinguistic Factors

There are a number of reasons for name changes, including external factors such as changes in geographical conditions, political or religious issues, and economic matters.

2.6.4.1 Politics

Place-names memorising historical events often became unacceptable when political opponents of former rulers come into power. From 1789 it was common for governments to name places to reflect their own ideology. The politicisation of names is a phenomenon which occurs all over Europe.⁸⁰

For instance, *St. Petersburg* was originally named after its founder, Czar Peter I. During various political eras the name of the city changed to *Petrograd* and later to *Leningrad*. Only recently, the inhabitants of the city decided in a plebiscite to restore the name *St. Petersburg*.

Barra's place-names do not show any obvious political influences, no islands, settlements or headlands commemorate names of former kings or rulers. However, political decisions of the MacNeil chiefs and later the Gordons did affect the island and its nomenclature. The landlord had the right to decide which villages were to stay and which had to be relocated and consequently ruled over death or continuity of a name.

2.6.4.2 Fashion

Fashionable trends in naming have a long tradition and probably are as old as early settlement history itself. On the continent the fashion element became particularly obvious in names of forts and estates that were changed to 'pomp'

⁸⁰See A. Bach, 1954:261.

or ‘grandeur names’. Aristocratic circles, who tended to celebrate their power through their choice of names, were often responsible for fashion-related naming.

Naming fashions are not only reflected in the choice of new names, but also in name changes. Generics are particularly revealing about settlement periods. Whereas the Scandinavian elements *-by* and *-thorp* enjoyed particular popularity in English place-names, the ON *bólstaðr*, *staðir* and *setr* were, for a limited period of time, frequently used in place-names of the Northern and Western Isles. The examination of fashion movements in naming throws light on settlement sequences and, in some cases, allows a chronological classification.

2.6.4.3 Religion

Place-names with religious connotations are common and may be found all over Europe. Religious inspiration could influence newly founded settlements as well as existing ones. The founding of a church or a monastery could cause the change of an old and established village name. At first monasteries would adopt the name of the settlement in which, or close to which, they were located, but would soon change their name, and often the name of the settlement, to a name honouring their patrons or a name suggesting spiritual life.⁸¹ Name changes affecting religious gathering places were driven by the influence of the powerful clergy. In catholic dominated areas saints’ names were often adopted as place-names, whereas in protestant areas the transfer of existing names from Israel, such as *Bethlehem* or *Nazareth*, was favoured. In Britain popular elements for religiously inspired place-names are *-church*, *kil-* and *-kirk*.

Surprisingly for such a pious community, field-work on Barra identified relatively few religious names: *Kilbar*, ‘St. Finnbarr’s chapel’; *Bealach Dhuggain*, ‘Father Duggan’s pass’; *Cille Bhrianain*, ‘St. Brendan’s chapel’ also known as *Cill’ Ann-drais* ‘St. Andrew’s chapel’, located on the small islet of Uinessan east of Vatersay. There is the island of *Pabbay*, ‘hermit’s island’, *Muldoanich*, ‘headland of the lord’ and *Sgeir na Trithinn*, ‘trinity skerry’.

2.6.4.4 Economy

Occasionally changes of names are undertaken in order to attract more settlers or tourists or to increase sales of products originating from a particular area.

For instance, vineyards in the vicinity of the prestigious *Goldberg* vineyard in

⁸¹See A. Bach, 1954:237.

Germany began to call themselves *Goldberg* in order to benefit from the image of the original owners.

Examples of name changes for economic reasons can also be found on Barra. In the 1850s east coast fishermen would refer to *Tiorbàgh* as *Northbay*, the latter being easier for them to remember and pronounce. The choice of the new name is not a translation of *Tiorbàgh*, ‘dry bay’, but most certainly was inspired by its position with respect to the other fishing port *Castlebay*. The exonym *Northbay* was eventually accepted and adopted by locals.

2.6.4.5 Differentiation

Changes of single sounds or letters of place-names to avoid doublets are not as common as taking on an additional qualifier such as location within a district, relative location to a twin settlement, a river-name, proximity to a forest or mountain or other feature.⁸² On Barra relative altitude is emphasised in *A' Phàirc Àrd*, ‘the high enclosure’, and *A' Phàirc Ìseal*, ‘the low enclosure’. Further examples are *Heishival Mór* and *Heishival Beag*, ‘big mountain of horses’ and ‘small mountain of horses’, and *Outer Heisker* and *Inner Heisker*, the latter pair emphasising relative distance from a reference point.

2.6.5 Intralinguistic Factors

Affecting appellatives as well as names, intralinguistic factors can cause changes within one language or changes among several languages in areas of language contact. Where the linguistic rules of one language meet the grammatical, syntactical, orthographic and phonological laws of the other, a variety of different changes can occur.

2.6.5.1 Phonological / Morphological Adaptation

Phonological and morphological adaptations in zones of language contact can take on many different forms, of which assimilation, dissimilation, loss of vowels or consonants, and simplification are just a few.

In spoken language there has always been the tendency to contract words or successions of words. This applies to names, too. The English place-name *Brighton* originated from Brighthelmstone, the initial version of *Bo'ness*, *Borrowstounness*,

⁸²See section 2.5.2.

is hardly remembered. Simplifications may occur intralingually and interlingually. Names that were adopted by Gaels from Scandinavian settlers will have been altered as much as younger Gaelic names have been altered to suit English sound patterns.

Phonetic transfers occur when two peoples communicate at a low level of understanding and sounds from one language are integrated into the other language. Sounds for which no equivalent in the immigrants' language exists are ignored while others are imitated as closely as possible.

An example of possible phonological change in Hebridean place-names is the mutation of the Norwegian aspirated sound /h/. This sound is never found in the beginning of a Gaelic word, and if transferred into the Gaelic language, it is replaced by the sound /t/. The ON word for an islet, *holmr* becomes *tolm*.⁸³

2.6.5.2 Translation

Translations occur in bilingual communities and assume a relatively good knowledge of the language of at least one of the communicating groups. When place-names are translated, the language barrier between original settlers and incomers cannot be considered as obvious as in phonetic transfer. In this category one may distinguish full from partial translation.

Castlebay on Barra has a parallel version in *Bàgh a' Chaisteil*. Outside the island the English version dominates in travel brochures, airport announcements and on maps. The place-name signs at the entrance and exit of the village refer to the place in its Gaelic name which, of course, is also used in local Gaelic conversations. The English and Gaelic versions of the name are equally well understood among locals in Barra.

However, translations are comparatively rare and *Castlebay*, *Northbay* and *Craigston* remain the only directly translated names in this examination.

2.6.5.3 Euphemism

When the inhabitants of a place become aware of possible negative associations that the name of that place possesses, they may choose to change the name to one with more pleasant connotations as illustrated by the following examples:⁸⁴

⁸³Aspects of morphology and phonology are discussed in chapter 7.

⁸⁴A. Bach, 1954:521.

<i>Kuhschietendal</i>	→	<i>Kuhschützental</i>
‘valley of cow droppings’		‘valley of cow hunters’

<i>Dreckgasse</i>	→	<i>Eintrachtsstraße</i>
‘dirt lane’		‘harmony street’

2.6.5.4 Folk-etymology

The urge not just to know a name but also to understand it is responsible for a number of corruptions, known as folk-etymology. They are “popular attempts to explain from the vernacular, and to bring [the names] into harmony with a supposed etymology.”⁸⁵ Folk-etymologies are based on, mostly erroneous, phonological and morphological breakdowns and occur in areas of language contact. They are results of the spoken, rather than the written language.

Instead of accepting a name with an abstract onomastic meaning once its lexical meaning has become opaque, a similar sounding new name is created and an entire story spun round the name to give it credibility. And – after a few generations – the invented new meaning may be considered the ‘true’ original meaning.

A’ *Mhiriceil* appeared to be so closely related to the Eng. word ‘miracle’, that the place could easily be believed to be the site of strange, supernatural happenings as one informant suggested. Indeed, the Celtic mythology boasts many fairy stories so this derivation would have appeared likely. However, a close examination of the name in combination with the nature of the territory proved that the name is derived from ON *myrkr* + *áll*, ‘the dark stretch of land’, which is appropriate to the location.

Folk etymologies should not be mistaken for false etymologies, a few of which appear to circulate on Barra. In Northbay there is a place called *Creag an t-Silidh*. An informant who provided the name assumed that it used to be the place where berries were collected for making jam, thus it must have been called ‘jam rock’. ‘Silidh’ is both the Gaelic word for jelly, and the genitive case of *sileadh*, ‘act or state of dropping’.⁸⁶ Consequently *Creag an t-Silidh* may also apply to a place at which water is running over stone and have the lexical meaning of ‘dripping rock’. An examination of the area in question revealed that it was boggy, covered in rocks and sloping so that small tracks of water were constantly crossing the rocks.

⁸⁵I. Taylor, 1927:344.

⁸⁶I am grateful to Roderick MacNeil (Ruairidh Fhionnlaigh) of Kinloch for providing this information.

2.6.5.5 Orthography

Since the invention of letterpress printing and the subsequent growth of the book industry, the printed word has overruled oral tradition. Generally, the written word is given more credibility than the spoken one, and this also applies to names. Written forms of names are considered official and enjoy more prestige than names that may occur in everyday use but are not found on maps or charts.

In the Western Isles the OS employed Gaelic-speaking surveyors. But as in the case of Barra, where A. CARMICHAEL was involved in keeping the field-books, surveyors were often not from the same area.

Errors, or toponymic lapses, can hardly be avoided in maps and may be traced back to a variety of different causes. They may be result of hypercorrections, simplifications or unintelligible hand writing.⁸⁷

Hypercorrections occur when a native spelling is mistakenly thought to be wrong and consequently corrected by the cartographer in charge. The large amount of different Gaelic dialects, combined with the lack of an official, comprehensive Gaelic dictionary, did not help in fixing orthographical rules for place-names in the Western Isles. There was no standard under which the different orthographical solutions in which a place-name can be expressed, might have been unified. The Gaelic language includes a number of sounds for which there is no adequate representation in English. Hence it is not unusual to find wrong spellings on maps and charts, especially if the map-makers failed to consult anyone who was expert in the dialect in question. Additionally, sounds, wrongly perceived, may either have been simplified or ignored. When relying only on the sense of hearing a number of sounds may easily be interchanged. Examples are the labials and semi-labials /b/ and /p/, and /b/ and /v/, the plosive /p/ and the fricative /f/, and the dentals /d/ and /t/. Other easily misperceived sounds are the palatal sounds /k/ and /g/, and the liquids /n/ and /l/, /n/ and /m/, and /l/ and /r/. On Barra the skerry noted as *Eilean Vialish* is locally known as *Eilean Vianish*.

Errors in place-name spellings may also be traced back to misreading of older sources.

2.7 Loss of Names

During the undertaken fieldwork, the lack of interest in old place-names amongst young people was the most frequently quoted reason for loss of names. But the

⁸⁷See J. B. McMillan, 1985:58.

problem is too complicated to be accounted for by any one cause. A variety of influences affect place-names and are responsible for their retention, change or loss. The indicators for name loss will now be discussed in depth with special reference to the Isle of Barra.

2.7.1 Cartographers

Maps protect names. Place-names that have been entered on a map have more chance of survival than names that are used in speech only. The power of the written word is strong enough to preserve a place-name long after it has fallen out of use in oral tradition. Identifying the location of the cleared settlement *Scotagearraidh* was only possible by referring to a map on which the secondary name *Loch Scotageary* was entered. When cartographers decide against the inclusion of a place-name on their maps because they consider the location unimportant, or because the mapped area is already saturated with entries, then that name depends entirely on oral tradition to be handed on to future generations and kept in use. Once an area ceases to be frequented its non-recorded names are likely to be forgotten and eventually lost.

Another important issue in map-making and its preceding field-work is the choice of collectors, their degree of familiarity with the area and the languages spoken in it, their ability to interact with informants, and, of course, their choice of informants. The Ordnance Survey Object Name Books, containing the collection of place-names of the parish of Barra in 1878, list, apart from the location of the entity, a description, references to various maps, and the names and occupations of the local informants. An examination of the interviewed parties reveals that the number of informants earning their livelihood as crofters or fishermen, and consequently having the closest possible involvement in the land and shore, was negligible. Instead, people of so-called respectable positions served as informants. These included parish ministers, a postmaster, a teacher and an innkeeper. Two extensively used informants, both non-locals, were Dr. MacGillivray, lease holder of Eoligaray farm, and his cousin, M. MacLennan, manager of Vatersay farm. A. Carmichael, who is named as an authority in almost all collected entries, originated from Lismore, and acted as an advisor on spelling.

2.7.2 Geology and Climate

Geological change is a continuous process. Some changes, such as continental subsidence, are too gradual to be noticed within a generation's lifetime, whilst others, such as volcanic eruptions, are so sudden, that within hours the appearance of a

place may change dramatically. The prevailing winds on Barra, together with the force of the waves and heavy rainfall, combine to slowly change the landscape. However, more noticeable changes are caused by unusually high spring tides which may even have the power to separate land masses.

Climatic changes have led to a significant rise in sea level over the last four thousand years. A consequence of this is that Barra's earliest settlements, which are believed to have been close to the shore, would have had to be abandoned in favour of sites on higher ground. After the desertion of a settlement there is little hope for the survival of its names if the territory on which it was located is unavailable for subsequent use.

More recent examples of geographical changes as a result of climate alterations can be observed on the wild western coastline of the archipelago. Two kilometres west of Sandray lies a formation of three large rocks known as Flodday. The main rock was connected with the next smaller one via a natural archway which collapsed in the mid 1970s. The Flodday group, lying as it does off any tourist route, is mainly of interest to fishermen and to Vatersay crofters, to whose common grazing ground the island belongs. An outstanding feature such as a natural arch would at any time have been an important landmark. Its physical disappearance will accelerate the loss of its name and lead to its disappearance from maps, charts and mind maps. In interviews with local fishermen no one was able to remember whether the archway ever had a distinctive name.

A further victim of continuously changing geological conditions is *Ciste na Clìthe*, 'pass of the cliff', the route once used by funeral parties when carrying bodies from Cleat, in the north-west of Barra, to the graveyard in Eoligarry in Barra's north. By taking this shortcut along the rocky coastline, six kilometres of detour could be avoided. During the strenuous walk the coffin carriers took regular breaks, and the resting places along the path received names.

Nowadays coffins are transported in hearses and the original motivation to use the path no longer exists. Traversed by only the occasional hill-walker, the track has faded and in some parts is no longer traceable. Located on one of the wilder coasts of the island, and subject to heavy erosion, some of the named features along the path can no longer be identified, whilst others have disappeared into the sea.

2.7.3 Settlement Structure

Changes in settlement structure are another reason for loss of names. Clearances and re-settlement schemes, common from 1850 onwards, led to villages becoming



Figure 2.7: Uamh Chliaid at the bottom of Ciste na Clithe

deserted with their ground subsequently lying empty or becoming part of large farms.

Scotagearraidh was a village located south of *Ruleos* and north of the river *Allt*. It is said to have been cleared within twenty-four hours. Foundations of houses can still be traced, but present knowledge of the existence of the settlement *Scotagearraidh* was restricted to two families only. Interviews with locals, undertaken by Ian A. Fraser in 1975, identified a lake in the neighbourhood of the settlement as *Loch Scotageary*. However, recent interviews showed that this name has been replaced by the versions *Loch an Rubha*, ‘lake of the point’, and *Loch nan Lilies*, ‘lake of the lilies’. With this change of name the last reminder of the settlement has disappeared from the locals’ mind maps.

The north of Barra, one of the most fertile areas on the island, was cleared to make way for a large farm with the Eoligarry House as its centre. In the Parish Register of Barra, reference is made to four villages that were formerly located in that area. They are *Vaslain*, *Chiall*, *Kilbar* and *Eoligarry*. The name which

appears least frequently in the register, *Eoligarrry*, nowadays refers to the whole district of North Barra, whereas the names of other settlements in that area are in danger of being forgotten. Although the area in which *Chiall* or *Kial* is located is still inhabited, and its name is mentioned on the Ordnance Survey map, it is no longer used as a landmark for local orientation or in conversations. *Vaslain*, frequently referred to as *Vaslene* and *Vasline* in the records, was still inhabited by a shepherd in 1878, but is nowadays a deserted stretch of land. As in Chiall, a nearby hill in Vaslain carries the name of the former settlement, but with the decline of intensive land use, the names of smaller elevations have fallen into disuse. *Kilbar* was once the name of the local church and the settlement surrounding it. It is now only the name of the church and a street called *Cille Bharra*, but in contrast to *Vaslain* and *Chiall*, it is still part of the postal address.

The dominance of the name *Eoligarrry* over the other settlements located in the north of Barra was made possible in 1919, when Eoligarrry was raided and eventually purchased by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The land was divided into crofts and the postal address has since consisted of the croft number and the name *Eoligarrry*. Surprisingly the northernmost district within the area, *Scurrival*, is in an administrative context also dominated by the name *Eoligarrry*, despite its embedding in a wide name field containing place-names like *Ben Scurrival*, *Dùn Scurrival*, *Tràigh Scurrival* and *Scurrival Point*. Locals resident in the northern part of Eoligarrry are fully aware of inhabiting an area called *Scurrival*. In spoken language the place-name is used as a means of reference throughout the island, but its written presentation is neither reflected in the postal address, nor the local telephone directory, nor in any place-name signs in the village.

Voluntary emigration caused a break in continuity of settlement and was thus responsible for further loss of names. The major emigration waves of the early 1800s, during which many families moved to the Carolinas and Canada, were followed by the rural exodus, starting after the decline of the herring industry in the 1920s and 1930s. Falling population figures led to crofts lying derelict after their owners had retired, left or died and caused further loss of bonds with the land, resulting in further loss of names.

2.7.4 Agriculture

The decline of self-sufficiency resulted in inevitable changes in land-use and husbandry. When noticeable numbers of Barra's inhabitants moved to the mainland in order to find work, crofts became vacant and more land was available for the remaining people. Consequently cattle and sheep could be moved from the hills to lower ground closer to the croft houses. In the meantime the shielings in the hills

fell into disuse, and with them the names of locations higher up in the mountains.

The land in general is not as intensely worked as it used to be. All kinds of food can be purchased in the local stores so that vegetables and fruit need not be grown in the garden any more. Spots in which berries used to be collected for jam are no longer frequented. The beaches are no longer walked in search of driftwood, which in the last century was an important source of fuel and a rare, but desirable, building material. Nowadays timber and other materials can instead be obtained in a local store. Carragheen, a special kind of nutritious seaweed, which could only be collected at very low tides and was once an important part of the local diet, has been replaced by iron tablets. Speed of work has been increased and agricultural machines are used whenever possible. Only some pendicles, which a number of families still use for growing potatoes, are, due to funding policies of the European Commission, fertilised in the old way with sea-weed. This will help to keep alive a few place- and field-names in the vicinity of the beaches.

2.7.5 Technology

The mechanisation of agriculture has to some extent detached crofters from the land which they work. Features which may have been significant to a man and horse working on the field may not be an issue to a tractor. Consequently, the need to refer to those features is diminished and their names fall into disuse and are lost. An increasing number of Barra's boats are fitted with echo sounding and satellite positioning technology, and so the importance of navigational landmarks in the daily business of the fishermen decreases. Consequently the names of such landmarks will fall into disuse and will eventually be forgotten.

With the introduction of radio and television the importance of social events, such as ceilidhs, declined. Every household containing TV and radio became a self-sufficient information unit, and so the need to obtain information from neighbours faded. Concern over disturbing neighbours' TV habits was frequently mentioned as a reason for decreasing contact among islanders.

Television and radio, although benefitting the community with national and international information and entertainment, interfered immensely with communication among locals. Place-names, whose survival is highly dependent on interaction of the islanders through work and conversation, are doomed to be exchanged less often. Places that cease to be mentioned in conversation and lore are likely to be eventually forgotten.

2.7.6 Social Life

Organised traditional meetings in village halls are held at regular intervals but spontaneous ceilidhs in private houses, despite being greatly enjoyed, are rare. Oral tradition is the main sufferer from the decline of the ceilidh, which was once an island institution. Songs and stories are not as frequently repeated as they used to be, and so the places mentioned in them will eventually be forgotten along with the songs and stories themselves.

Over-representation of English in the media and the lack of Gaelic equivalents for English technical terms favour the use of English. Code-switching, conversations started in Gaelic but finished in English, can be observed frequently.

2.7.7 Transport

Before the arrival of the first car on Barra in 1926, horse-riding, walking and sailing were the only means of transport available. Prior to 1825, when the road was built, the main traffic routes across the island were a network of paths which were hardly adequate even for carts. Walks from Eoligarry to Northbay, from Allasdale to Ardveenish, or from Bruernish to Castlebay were not unusual. The traditional Easter tour was a walk around the whole island. Those taking the long and strenuous journeys from north to south, or from east to west, across the island required regular rests. Places called *Suidheachan*, 'seats', of which there are several on the island, were once important landmarks in the locals' perception, because they defined walkable distances.

A formerly important traffic route led from Earsary through the hills to Craigston and Borge, and was the main east-west connection. *Am Bealach*, 'the pass', or *Bealach Dhuggain*, 'Father Duggan's pass', is a reminder of the times when the catholic priest used to walk the island to provide services in various places. Nowadays the improved ring road dictates the route travellers take. Old paths such as *An Leathad Cas*, 'the steep slope', in Glen, which used to be part of the main road from Castlebay to Brevig, have been made redundant by a changed road layout. The path through *Gleann Dorcha*, 'dark valley', formerly one of the most important peat trails, has fallen into disuse with the decrease in use of that fuel, and the route from the east coast to the west coast through *Bealach Dhuggain* is walked by none save the occasional tourist. Place-names connected with old traffic routes have a diminished chance of long-term survival once the routes have fallen into disuse. This process can be slowed down if the routes continue to be frequented as tourist paths or remain of interest to locals. Walking is considered an activity of the past as soon as another means of transportation can be used.

The car dominates the streets and walking and cycling are not encouraged by the lack of pavements on the island.

With the arrival of the car, journeys which used to take hours can now be completed within minutes. Places fly past the window, but their names are no longer essential for daily survival. Modern means of transport provide rapid movement and have broadened peoples' horizons. Peoples' knowledge of national and international places has increased considerably in comparison with that of their grandparents, but at the same time knowledge of microtoponymics, of places in their own locality, has decreased. This shift in perception will be examined in detail in the following chapter. In general, faster modes of transport lessen contact with places passed through and so contribute to loss of field names.

2.8 Continuity and Survival

As the examination has shown, names can be seen as part of a never-ending cycle. They are created, they change, die and can even be recovered, as illustrated by the example of *St. Petersburg*. Yet names do not have a life of their own. In the centre of the never-ending cycle is always man, who chooses, uses and controls place-names. Therefore place-names exist only in a human context.

Measures to give names a degree of permanence, such as signs or mapping, are relatively recent developments in comparison to the long oral tradition of names over the centuries. Nowadays place-names on maps and road signs are to some extent protected by administrative bodies. In some countries, such as the United States, where the National Geographic Board decides on continuation or change of a particular name, place-names are more stable than in, for instance, Britain, where no such authority exists. In Britain place-names may undergo radical changes from one edition of a map to the next, as neither the Ordnance Survey nor the Admiralty consider themselves authorities on place-names. Thus their decisions on what names to include on maps and on which spellings to apply are driven by market requirements, rather than by the interests of the onomastician. Orally transmitted names remain entirely dependent on their users, actively communicated lore and on continuity of land-use.

Density of names depends on the peoples' ties to their land. The greater the variety of peoples by which a given area has been inhabited, the more diverse are the linguistic strata of that area. The survival of place-names depends on people's attachment to their property, on their use of the land and on whether they identify with their surroundings. It is possible to maintain place-names

artificially by archiving existing material, but it is impossible to keep names alive in people's mind maps if they do not need to know the names.

3 Documentation

This chapter discusses and evaluates material collected from a variety of documentary sources and from interviews with informants. Analysis of the written sources, such as church records, gazetteers, travel literature and Ordnance Survey collection field-books, reveals that some documents were simply copied from existing documents without verifying the information therein. The history of the mapping of Barra is presented, and consideration is given to how increasingly accurate maps contributed to an improved geographical perception of the island.

Since Hebridean folklore became of public interest, a number of researchers have visited Barra. Their impact on recording Barra's heritage will be examined with the focus on their contribution to place-name collection. Observations made during my own field work in 1995/96 form the basis for the characterisation of local informants. Finally, data published in Census Returns and earlier sources illuminates recent settlement history, which is an important factor in the distribution of place-names.

3.1 The Cartography of Barra

The first map to show Scotland in a recognisable shape was made by GEORGE LILY in 1546 and was called *Britanniae Insulae*. Fourteen years later an Italian map, by an anonymous surveyor and publisher, shows Scotland for the first time on a sheet separate from the rest of Britain. On this map the Hebrides, some thirty islands lying to the west of the Scottish mainland, are rather arbitrarily accumulated and sized without any clear distinction between the Inner and Outer Hebrides. Some of the islands on this map are named, but with Mull and Iona exchanged and Iona being approximately the same size as Mull, the credibility of the map is questionable.

In ABRAHAM ORTELIUS's *Scotiae Tabula* of 1573 the Minch clearly separates the Inner and the Outer Hebrides. The outline of the Outer Isles is fairly identifiable although the representation of Barra, marked as *Barray* on the map, and the four islands located to its south do not resemble the contours of any island of the Barra group as known today. Two further names, *Erth* and *Scail*, appear on this and subsequent maps, but they cannot with any certainty be linked to any of the large islands surrounding Barra.⁸⁸

⁸⁸It has been suggested that these names correspond to Hirte and St. Kilda respectively. This, however, is doubtful, as the St. Kilda archipelago is located much further north west. Additionally, since Hirte and St. Kilda designate the same place it is difficult to see why they

Vatersay. Settlement symbols, in the shape of little houses, are found in various places throughout the islands. The only lake marked on this map lies in the northern part of Barra and has an outlet running west into the Atlantic. The surrounding villages would suggest the lake to be Loch an Dùin, but the outlet of Loch an Dùin runs in an easterly direction into the Minch. The only lakes directly connected with the Atlantic are Loch Tangusdale⁸⁹ and Loch na Doirlinn, both of which are located much further south than that shown on the map. Despite a number of uncertainties, Blaeu's map is the first serious attempt at mapping the Barra group and providing information on place-names in its interior.

MARTIN MARTIN was not a surveyor, but at the end of the 17th century he travelled the Western Isles extensively. Although he accompanied JOHN ADAIR on his Hebridean voyage it is not sure whether they ever visited Barra, or whether Martin's description derived from knowledge which he gained whilst working as a factor on Skye. He almost certainly did not visit the islands south of Barra, as his map interchanges the locations of *Mingulay* and *Pabbay*. Adair, known for his detailed surveys of the East coast, was also active in the Hebrides, but there is no proof that he ever manufactured a printed or manuscript map of Barra.

A map produced in 1718 by HERMAN MOLL shows the whole of Scotland on one sheet and consequently is bound to be less detailed than BLAEU's *Atlas Novus*. Moll did not survey the Western Isles but merely copied previously available information. For the Barra group, which seems to have reverted to a north-south orientation, seven names are entered. It is striking that Moll decided to include *Fuday*, a medium sized and rather unimportant island among Barra's northern satellites, although he locates it incorrectly. To the south, the *Bishop's Islands* are shown, but only two islands out of the three that form the group, namely *Berneray* and *Pabbay*, appear on the map, whilst *Mingulay*, the largest, is not mentioned. This odd mixture of important along with insignificant geographical features proves Moll's lack of familiarity with the territory, and that his choice of names was arbitrary.

MARK TIDDEMAN's *Draught of part of the Highlands of Scotland* of 1730 is only a rough sketch, lacking accuracy in both survey and spelling. The island *Sandray*, on early maps spelt *Sandrera*⁹⁰, is misspelt as *Landlera*, and *Berneray*⁹¹ appears as *Barnero*. *Mingulay* is, again, omitted, which suggests a possible link between this and Moll's map.

In 1761 JAMES DORRET published his *Accurate map of Scotland drawn from*

⁸⁹See Loch Tangusdale in the gazetteer.

⁹⁰Gordon 1653, Blaeu 1654, Martin 1703.

⁹¹Gordon 1653, Blaeu 1654, Moll 1718.

all the particular surveys hitherto published, which was indeed an improvement over its predecessors. *Pabbay* and *Mingulay* are correctly located, but *Sandray*, an island of substantial size, is omitted despite the inclusion of smaller islands such as *Flodday* and *Lingay*. *Fuday* has been shifted to the north-west of the northern peninsula, and *Fiaray*, spelt on the map as *Fara*, has been placed in the former location of *Fuday*. *Kilbara*, *Borg* and *Kismul Castle* are listed as settlement names.

The Orcadian MURDOCH MACKENZIE was hydrographer to the Admiralty and charted the entire west coast of Scotland between 1748 and 1757. As ROY's military survey only covered the Scottish mainland, the Hebrides, from which Charles Stuart had escaped so successfully, were chosen as a starting point for MacKenzie's systematic survey. By this time surveying instruments and methods had improved considerably. The use of a baseline on land, in combination with triangulation and the theodolite, increased accuracy. Clocks, however, were still imprecise and this had a negative impact on his calculations of longitude. His chart of Barra, published in 1776, introduces a number of new place-names. In addition to the largest islands, he names various islets and coastal features such as bays and rocks serving as navigational landmarks and even one mountain. A few of the islands show symbols indicating habitation, although the entire east coast, nowadays speckled with a number of sizeable settlements, does not feature any settlement names. The accuracy and detail achieved in this chart were either ignored by, or not known to, subsequent map publishers.

M. J. ARMSTRONG's map, also published in 1776, omits Mingulay, as Moll and Tiddeman had done before, and F. J. J. VON REILLY, who in 1791 produced a map carrying the promising title *Die Insel Bara*, is known to have gathered his information from Blaeu. Von Reilly's map was nonetheless significant in being the first to show Barra independently of other Hebridean islands.

Twenty years after MACKENZIE's survey of the west coast the next important step in Hebridean mapping and charting history was made. In 1789 the British Fisheries Society commissioned JOSEPH HUDDART to undertake a survey. The result was *A new Chart of Scotland from the Point of Ardnamurchan to Cape Wrath*, which was published in 1794. Huddart improved on MacKenzie's chart by providing information on the nature of the sea bed and tidal currents, and by indicating safe anchorages. In addition to a number of villages, the profile of a hill on Barra is shown for the first time. Huddart locates depths around the island and describes the shores of *Bernera*, *Mingulay*, and *Pabbay* as being steep and rocky, in contrast to the sandy stretches in the north of Barra. A number of beaches are mentioned for the first time, including *The Bay* in Vatersay, *Ba*

A large step towards a detailed survey of Barra was undertaken by MACLEAN in 1820/21. The map, published by THOMSON in 1823 on a separate sheet, appeared in atlas form in 1832. The map shows the entire Barra Isles and large parts of South Uist with the top of the map west-facing. It is the first map to show the physical layout of Barra by locating mountains and the most frequented roads. Although the east coast settlements such as *Brevig*, *Leanish*, or *Earsary* are mentioned, there is no trace of a link between them. The road as indicated by MACLEAN runs from *Glen* via *Kentangaval*, *Tangusdale*, *Borve*, *Craigston* and *Allasdale* to *Loch na h-Òb*. It branches several times in *Grean*, with one branch following the old coffin carriers' route, *Ciste na Clithe*, along the Atlantic shore to what is known today as *Tràigh Mhór*, but was called 'Ottervore' by MACLEAN. The other path leads past *Loch an Dùin*, *Northbay*, along *Ardveenish* and *Ardmhór* and joins the coffin carriers' path at *Tràigh Mhór*. There is an abundance of names distributed all over the map with some areas entirely saturated. The spelling of the names and the density of place-names, especially on the peninsula of *Bruernish* and its adjacent skerries, suggest not only that MacLean might have been a native speaker of Gaelic, but also that he may have been a native of *Bruernish* or at least have strong links to that part of the island.⁹³ It is striking that the map provides detailed information on both coastal and interior features and covers names which formerly were published separately on either maps or charts. MacLean's map serves as an important starting point from which the development, not only of place-names, but also the distribution of settlements may be examined.

The first hydrographic survey by the Admiralty of the waters of the Western Isles took place between 1846 and 1863. Captain HENRY C. OTTER, the director of the survey, was assisted by Captain FREDERICK W. L. THOMAS and Commander A. G. EDYE. Barra was targeted at the end of that period mainly by OTTER and Edye, and the chart, *Scotland West Coast, Hebrides or Western Isles From Barra Head to Scarpa Island*, was published in 1865. The most distinguishing feature of this chart are three inset maps, appearing at the left hand side of the main chart, which show the *Sound of Bernera*,⁹⁴ *Castle Bay* and the *Sound of Vatersay* in a larger scale. Numbers indicate depths around the islands, and details of the heights and names of mountains are given also. There is a noticeable increase in English names. Whereas MACLEAN's map uses English merely for the straits between the islands and for the *Bay of Vatersay*,⁹⁵ the Admiralty chart makes use of English translations as often as possible. This ranges from rather clumsy combinations such as *Vatersay Island*, to the fully anglicised form of *Michael*

⁹³This observation was made by Ken MacKinnon (Ken a Nec) of Bolnabodach/Oban to whom I am grateful.

⁹⁴See *Sound of Berneray* in the gazetteer.

⁹⁵See *Vatersay Bay* in the gazetteer.

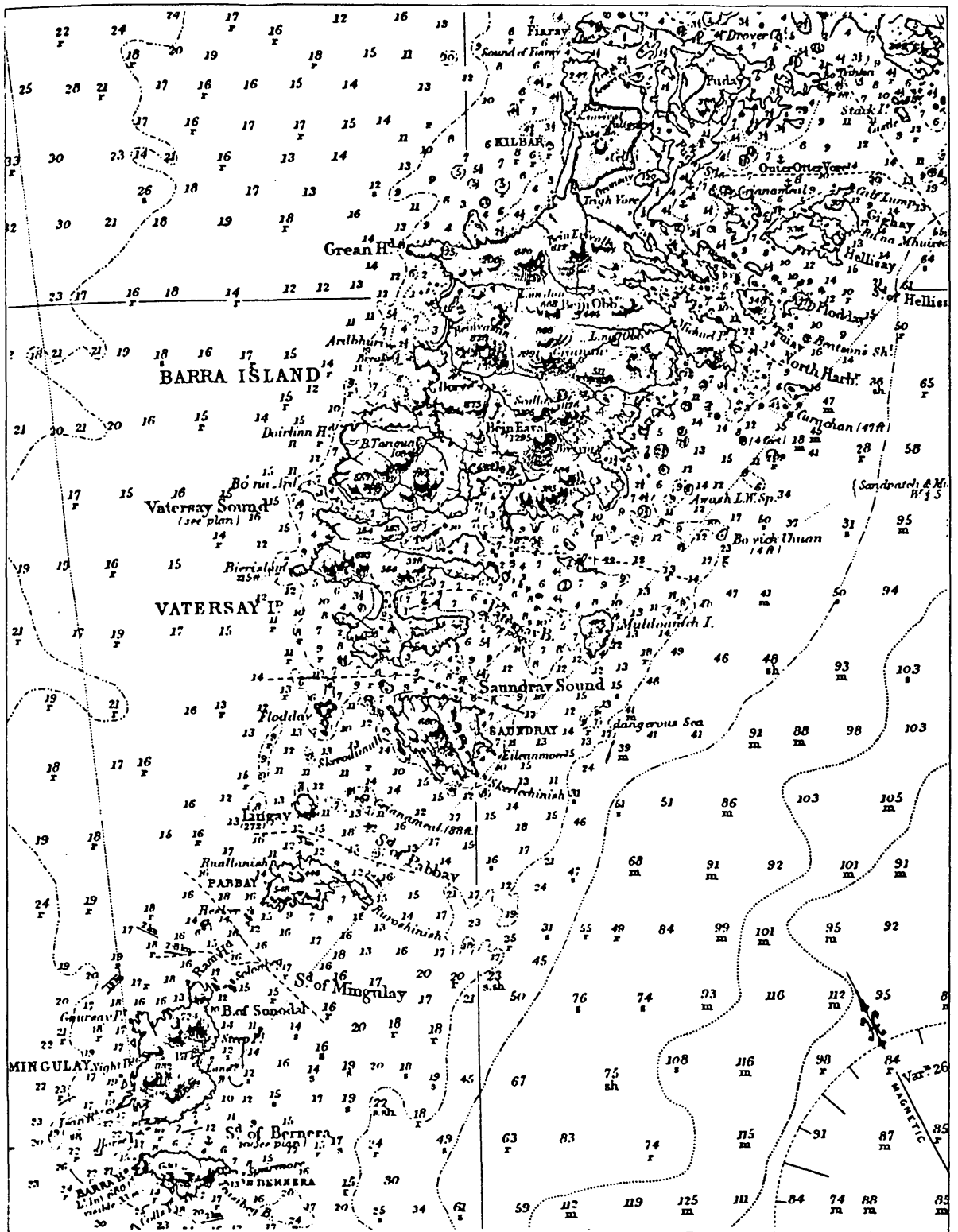


Figure 3.10: Admiralty chart 2474: Hebrides or Western Isles from Barra Head to Scarpa Island, 1865.

Detail: inset Bernera to Drover Channel.

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Point translated from *G Rubha Mhìcheil*. There is no doubt that this chart was made by non-Gaelic speakers and intended for English-speaking users.

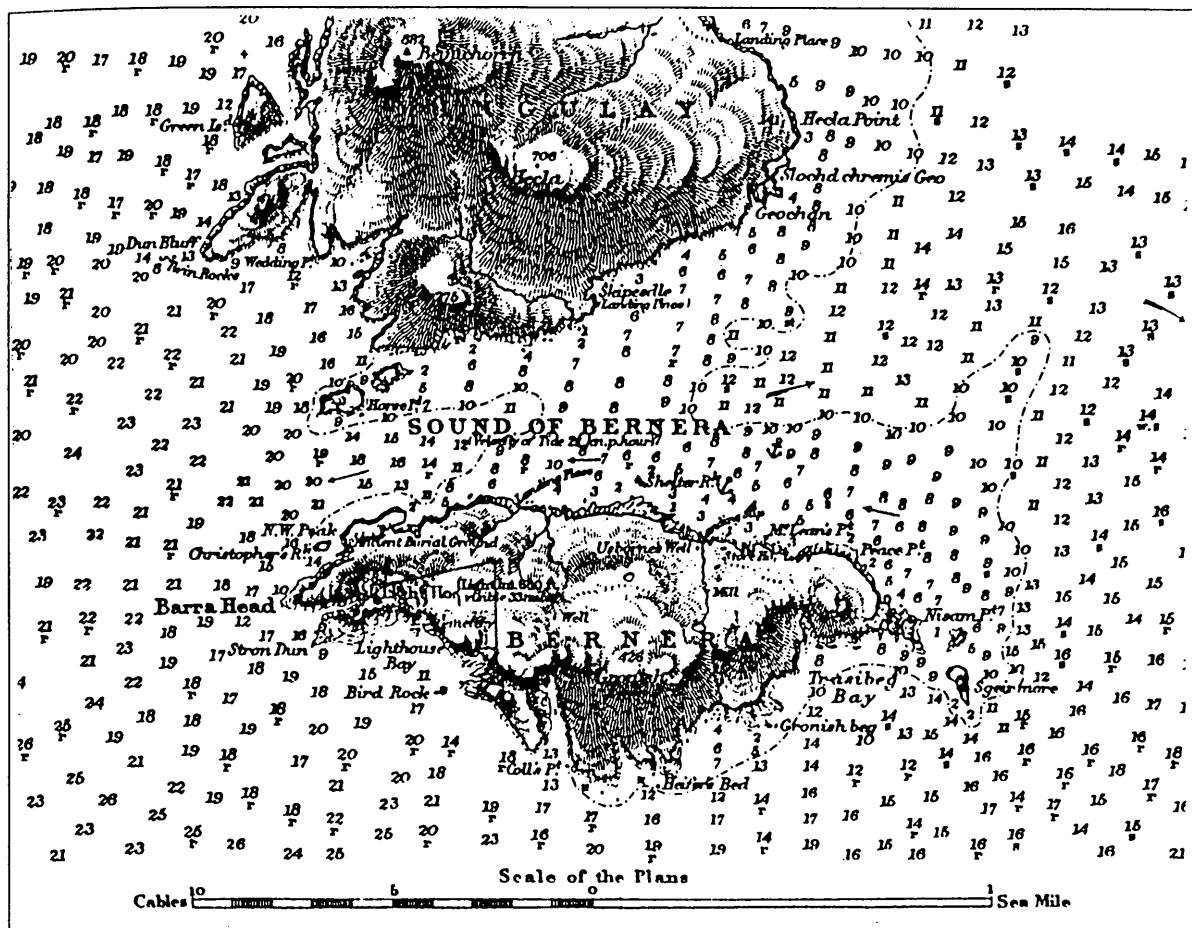


Figure 3.11: Admiralty chart 2474: Hebrides or Western Isles, from Barra Head to Scarpa island, 1865. Inset: Sound of Bernera.

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The most important changes to the chart took place in 1911 and in 1953. In 1911 the flat appearance of the land masses was altered to a physical map so that hills could be identified more easily. Concerning the choice of language on the chart, a change of direction was made in 1953, when a number of English place-names were replaced by their Gaelic counterparts, of which *Tom a' Reithean*, formerly *Ram Head*, *Rubha Domhain*, formerly *Steep Point*, and *An Laogh*, formerly *Calf Lump*, are examples. Revised editions of this map were published every ten to fifteen years until its most recent edition in 1975.

Two large-scale charts in a scale of 1:30,000 provide a close-up look at the Barra group with detailed information on reefs, skerries and rocks. One map covers the area from *Barra Head* to *Greian Head*, with an enlarged plan of *Castle Bay*

in a scale of 1:12,500. The other map shows the northern part of the island from *Bruernish* to *Loch Boisdale* in South Uist. The latest editions of both maps appeared in 1987 and are the most recent hydrographic material referenced in this thesis.

The first Ordnance Survey maps of Barra were compiled in 1876. The information gathered in the Ordnance Survey Object Name Books will be discussed in detail in section 3.2.4. In 1878 the material from the Ordnance Survey Object Name Books was published on eleven maps at a scale of 1:10,560, providing detailed geographical information on the entire Barra group. There followed, the same year, a further eleven maps, covering the inhabited and cultivated areas only. A second edition, published in 1901, showed an improved geographical layout, but did not contain any more information on place-names. The third edition of 1971/72 provided improved graphical representation of the elevations indicated on the map. The national grid system, introduced in the 1940s, simplifies reference to any location.

A major development in new-technology mapping was made in 1995 when the OS introduced Superplan. The OS have digitised mapping data of the entire British Isles stored in a computer database which Superplan can access to produce seamless maps of any particular area, eliminating the need for map users to consult two, three or, in some cases, four adjoining maps. For a number of places the conventional method of paper mapping has already been withdrawn.

The Ordnance Survey Landranger Series, however, are continued on paper. Their latest edition for Barra, published in 1997, shows a remarkable change in orthography. All names are represented in Gaelic orthography, even names of distinctly Norse origin such as *Scurrival*,⁹⁶ *Pabbay*,⁹⁷ and *Lingay*.⁹⁸ When questioned about the reasons for this change, staff of the Ordnance Survey pointed out that the changes were carried out due to public demand. This move towards gaelicisation of all existing names is artificial, and is more confusing than helpful for anyone trying to trace the origin of the place-names of Barra.

⁹⁶OS Landranger Series: *Sgùrabhal*.

⁹⁷OS Landranger Series: *Pabaidh*.

⁹⁸OS Landranger Series: *Lingeigh*.

3.2 Written Sources

3.2.1 Church Records

Church records on Barra are scarce. In 1845 the *New Statistical Account* gives the following information for the Church of Scotland records:

“There is no parochial register kept in this parish, nor can we learn that any was ever kept. This may be accounted for by the parishioners having been, till of late, almost all Roman Catholics, over whom the minister could exercise no control.”⁹⁹

NICOLSON excludes the parochial register for Cuier Church, covering the period from 1843 to 1857, to which he most likely contributed. It is possible that his report in the *New Statistical Account* was written before the introduction of the parochial register, but published afterwards. The *Register of Births and Baptisms of Protestants in the Parish of Barra*, and the subsequent sections on marriages and deaths, consist of only a few pages and provide hardly any information on place-names.

As the first two *Statistical Accounts* on Barra were written by parish ministers, they could also be considered as church records, but for the purpose of this thesis, they will be discussed separately in section 3.2.5.

Some information was kept in the *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanæ*, the records of the presbytery, including details on new churches, repair costs for existing church property, and reports of moral offenders among the parishioners. The *Fasti* reveal that the parish of Barra was annexed to South Uist, Kilpheatir and Benbecula in the second half of the seventeenth century and separated again in 1733. Consequently, the presbytery record of South Uist covering the period 1760–1786, which was lost at sea in 1786, would not have included any information on Barra. The material on heritors gathered in the *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanæ* is accumulated from various *Parliamentary Papers* and the *Register of the Great Seal*, and offers little information on place-names.

The *Roman Catholic Diocese of Argyll and the Isles Records*, formerly kept in Craigston, cover the period from 1805 to 1944, registering births and deaths and, in a separate volume, marriages from 1853 to 1944. The first part of the register is of particular interest, as each entry for a newborn states the place of birth and the address of its godparent. The register includes references to settlement names,

⁹⁹A. Nicolson, 1845:206.

some of which have since been transformed to field-names, or have vanished entirely from maps. Examples are *Kiall*,¹⁰⁰ *Duari*,¹⁰¹ *Garbruernish*,¹⁰² *Gasabhal*¹⁰³ and *Druideal*.¹⁰⁴ The spelling of the names varies, with different versions of the same name sometimes appearing on one page. The contents of the register describe a comparatively large fabric of settlements including a number of remote and hardly accessible locations, spread over the entire Barra group. As the Roman Catholic records cover the period during which Barra's population reached its peak, and the island was categorised as one of the most heavily congested districts, the place-name information contained therein is a valuable source for reconstructing Barra's settlement structure in the nineteenth century.¹⁰⁵

3.2.2 Registers

There are several registers revealing early spellings of Barra place-names. The *Register of Sasines*,¹⁰⁶ which lists all transfers of heritable property in Scotland since 1617, refers to Barra several times, but contains few unfamiliar place-names. The same applies to entries referring to Barra in the *Register of the Great Seal*.¹⁰⁷ This register includes details of all charters in which the Crown grants its vassals estates. Barra is mentioned, but again the information given consists merely of several spelling variations of the name Barra. The *Valuation Rolls* form the basis for local government taxation by estimating rent for both land and heritages. In this function they list smaller units such as villages, houses and farms and provide a larger number of Barra place-names than any of the other registers.¹⁰⁸

3.2.3 Gazetteers

Early sources, such as *The Topographical Dictionary of Scotland* (1846)¹⁰⁹ and *The Gazetteer of Scotland* (1882),¹¹⁰ describe the location of Barra, its agriculture, history, economy, and Barra's inhabitants, and also contain a number of

¹⁰⁰See *Chiall* in the gazetteer.

¹⁰¹See *An Dubhairigh* in the gazetteer.

¹⁰²See *Gàraidh Bhruairnis* in the gazetteer.

¹⁰³See *Gaiseabhal* in the gazetteer.

¹⁰⁴See *Druideal* in the gazetteer.

¹⁰⁵See Roman Catholic Diocese of Argyll and the Isles records, 1805–1944, held in the Scottish Record Office, Edinburgh.

¹⁰⁶See Register of Sasines, Index of Place-Names Inverness, Scottish Record Office.

¹⁰⁷See Register of the Great Seal, Scottish Record Office.

¹⁰⁸See Valuation Rolls, VR 103 and Field Books for the Valuation Rolls, IRS 68/15–19, Scottish Record Office.

¹⁰⁹S. Lewis, 1846.

¹¹⁰J. Wilson, 1882.

place-names. The islands surrounding Barra are listed separately. The information seems to be gathered partly from the *New Statistical Account* (1845), and partly from the *Census Returns*.¹¹¹ The *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland* additionally lists transport links to South Uist and Oban, but does not contain any unfamiliar Barra place-names. Early gazetteers list the names of Barra's satellites alphabetically, but not the names of places on the satellites.

More recent gazetteers, such as the *Pathfinder Gazetteer*,¹¹² list in alphabetical order the place-names of a number of regions in one volume, thus making quick reference to the place-names of one particular parish difficult. Each name in the *Pathfinder Gazetteer* (1992) is accompanied by an eight character reference, stating the map it appears on, its 100 square kilometre reference, and the four figure number of the grid square in which the location may be found.

In comparison to other sources, gazetteers proved to be of little value in providing place-name material.

3.2.4 Ordnance Survey Object Name Books

The Object Name Books, compiled by the Ordnance Survey, contain descriptions of all properties entered on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch and 25 inch maps and are arranged by parish within counties. The Object Name Books for Barra were compiled between 1876 and January 1878, possibly by Captain J. C. MACPHERSON, whose name is noted on the last page.

The printed layout of the Ordnance Survey Object Name Books provided space for the place-name, alternative spellings, informants and sources from which information was obtained, and descriptions of varying lengths. Depending on the collector, detailed information about antiquities, natural history and sometimes even social conditions were given. For Barra at least two different people were involved in the accumulation of material, as the different hand-writings in the Ordnance Survey Object Name Books reveal. Although it is certain that A. A. CARMICHAEL played an important role in the contemporary spelling of place-names, and is frequently mentioned as an authority for names in Barra, it is unknown whether he acted as a collector of place-names himself. Despite his detailed knowledge of Barra's lore, he would certainly not have been able to contribute much information about unrecorded places himself. However, CARMICHAEL was most likely aware of the significance of including or omitting names and the con-

¹¹¹The Census Returns were published every ten years.

¹¹²R. A. Hooker, 1992.

sequences for local heritage.¹¹³

The names to be included in the books were selected from historical maps and charts, and gathered from local people. From a variety of different spellings one was chosen to become the official version, often in favour of anglicised orthography. As a lighter shade of ink in the document reveals, the English translations of names were added at a later stage. JOHN T. HOBAN is a name which frequently occurs in the collected material. He seems to have been the controlling officer, as he excludes a number of names by marking them “cancelled by order” and adding his signature. As the Ordnance Survey are unable to provide any information on Captain MacPherson or Hoban, their identities will remain uncertain.

The people named in the category of authority came from a variety of different backgrounds, ranging from crofters and fishermen, who worked the land or sea on a daily basis, to people who held key professions in the local community, who probably did not have an intimate knowledge of the land, with the latter group representing one third of the total number of informants. Between 34 and 36 informants,¹¹⁴ excluding the collectors themselves, were included in the collection and verification of the material. In places where non-locals are listed as the only source of verification the accuracy of the survey and the reliability of the material obtained is questionable.¹¹⁵ However, during this first large-scale survey, 500 place-names found their way onto the Ordnance Survey maps. No doubt names could have been provided for many more places, but it depended on the collectors, the available space on the maps, and eventually the map-makers to decide which names were to be included and which were not.

3.2.5 Statistical Accounts

There are three statistical accounts of Scotland, each containing detailed information about the history of each parish, its topography, local economy, population numbers, church life, transport and language.

The first account, known as the *Statistical Account of Scotland*, was written by each parish minister, and in the case of Barra by Reverend EDWARD MACQUEEN in 1791. Published three years later, this is the earliest detailed document dealing with the Barra group. Though the spelling of names within the account is inconsistent, the place-names mentioned cover the major villages and sheltered

¹¹³For further information on Carmichael see section 3.3.1.

¹¹⁴Some informants were impossible to identify with only their surnames and first letter of their christian names entered into the register.

¹¹⁵In the following chapters this examination will illuminate to what extent contemporary informants disagree with the information provided on Ordnance Survey maps.

harbours of Barra at the end of the 18th century, revealing important information about the settlement structure. MacQueen derives the name *Barray* from the island's patron St. Barr but admits that this derivation might be wrong and that an older name for the island may have existed.

The *New Statistical Account of Scotland* appeared fifty years after the first one. For the parish of Barra it was written by Reverend ALEXANDER NICOLSON, who gives detailed information on Barra's changed social and economical situation and frequently draws comparisons between first and second account. Nicolson derives the name of the island from its location within the chain of the Hebrides. By translating *Ay* or *I* as 'island' and *Bar-* as 'top' or 'point', he concludes that *Barray* is the 'point or top island' of the Hebrides. Bearing in mind that the Vikings used to call the Hebrides *Sudreyjar*, 'southern islands', Barra, seen from a Scandinavian perspective, does indeed lie at the extreme end of the Outer Hebrides. However, it is doubtful that the ON generic *øy*, 'island', would have been combined with the G specific 'bàrr', m, 'top' when all other islands in the Barra group containing the generic -ay are combined with ON specifics.

The *Third Statistical Account*, written in 1954 by A. F. SMITH, Barra's district clerk, contains reference to 33 different place-names, in contrast to the 21 mentioned in each of the two earlier reports. In addition to the most important island names and *Castlebay* and the *Oitir Mhór* which appear in all three accounts, this one mentions a number of field- and marine names such as *Tangusdale Loch*,¹¹⁶ *Loch an Dùin*, *Sound of Barra* and *Sound of Vatersay*. Smith gives names of the largest mountains, *Heaval* and *Ben Tangaval*, and a number of settlement names from both the west and the east sides of the island, which indicates that the road, and consequently the access to the east, must have been improved considerably between 1845 and 1954.

Over the period between the writing of the first account and the writing of the third, only one place-name has obviously undergone a full change: *Tirivah*, as stated in the first account, appears as *North Bay* in the third. The other names remain largely unchanged.

3.2.6 Travel Literature

Place-name evidence from early written sources is scarce. The oldest description made from personal observation in the Western Isles was made by DONALD MONRO, Dean of the Isles, in 1549, but was not published until 225 years later.

¹¹⁶See *Loch Tangusdale* in the gazetteer.

Although Monro delineates and locates a number of Barra's satellite islands inaccurately, and even confuses *Bàgh Beag* with *Castle Bay*, he includes names of islets and even two settlement names, and consequently gives more detailed information than any of his contemporaries.

GEORGE BUCHANAN's account of 1582 contains names of chapels, wells and other interior features, and suggests that he may well have visited the island of Barra himself.

MARTIN MARTIN travelled most of the Hebridean islands, including Barra, in the late 17th century. Although Martin was aware of his predecessors' accounts and includes parts of them into his own report, he describes why he failed to visit Kisimul Castle, and this honesty contributes to his credibility. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that he visited the southern satellites of Barra, as he places Sandray immediately south of Barra, shifting Vatersay to the south of Sandray. Also, he erroneously states that Pabbay and Mingulay are of the same size. In addition to those located on his map, further place-names are included in his report and this publication remains a valuable early contribution to place-names evidence.

When Reverend JOHN WALKER wrote his *Report on the Hebrides of 1764 and 1771*, he covered Barra, the *Tràigh Mhór*, *Craymore* as he calls it, *Kilbarra*,¹¹⁷ and the large islands surrounding Barra. All of these names he could, at that point in time, have copied from existing maps or travel descriptions. Only his detailed account of the economic situation of Barra suggests that he actually visited the island.

Other famous travellers in the Hebrides were JOHNSON and BOSWELL in 1775, but they did not come any closer to Barra than the island of Coll. After years of oppression as a result of the uprising in 1745, the Highlands started to regain popularity. This was, to a great extent, made fashionable by SIR WALTER SCOTT, who undertook two tours in the Hebrides. His first journey in 1810 covered Mull, Staffa and Iona. His second, in 1814, led him to visit a number of lighthouses. As the Barra Head lighthouse was not erected until 1833, it is unlikely that Barra was on his agenda.

In the period between 1811 and 1821 JOHN MACCULLOCH, a geologist and surgeon, travelled the Western Isles extensively, and in 1826 was commissioned to make a geological map of Scotland. Although MacCulloch reached Barra, Mingulay and Berneray, his report contains no place-names other than those already recorded. His attempt at determining the origin of certain place-names produced some erroneous results.

¹¹⁷See *Kilbar* in the gazetteer.

From 1860 onwards the Barra group became a popular destination for natural historians. The large puffin colonies which inhabit the high cliff, *Biulacraig*, on Mingulay, attracted a number of visitors. Transport improvements in the 1880s included the establishment of a railway connection between Oban and Glasgow, improving access to this important gateway to the Hebrides. Regular access to the southern islands of the Barra group was established in order to maintain and provide supplies for the Barra Head lighthouse. As travel became easier the Barra group attracted more visitors. Since the start of the twentieth century, many travel descriptions and guide books have been written about Barra. But, as might be expected of reports by travel writers aimed at a tourist audience, the coverage of place-names is restricted to the most prominent tourist locations.

3.3 Oral Tradition

3.3.1 Collectors

The information gathered by people whose interest was less in recreation, and more in collecting island lore and songs, proved far more valuable than the accounts composed by tourists. In the past one hundred years Barra has been a favourite destination for ethnologists, mainly because of its remote location and its pure Gaelic.

JOHN FRANCIS CAMPBELL, author of *Popular Tales of the West Highlands*, was a keen collector of folklore and, in his position as a secretary to the lighthouse commissioners, would probably have travelled to Barra. Apart from the occasional reference to a place with which a story would be connected, Campbell does not appear to have collected place-name information.

The contemporaries Alexander Carmichael and Father ALLAN McDONALD both compiled large collections of songs, poems and stories, and both were involved in the study of place-names in the area of South Uist and Barra. Carmichael advised the Ordnance Survey in translating matters and, when required, in supplying the Gaelic spelling of place-names collected for the first Ordnance Survey 6-inch maps. Father Allan was based in South Uist, and later on Eriskay, but paid frequent visits to Barra. The only known place-names material for Barra he published is a list of non-Gaelic names on Mingulay¹¹⁸ in 1903, which contains 52 entries, partly phonetically spelled.¹¹⁹ During some of his visits to Barra Father Allan was accompanied by ADA GOODRICH-FREER, a folklorist and collector.

¹¹⁸A. McDonald, 1903:432f.

¹¹⁹The names of this collection which could not be placed on the map are listed in the appendix.

Unlike Carmichael and Father Allan she did not speak Gaelic. Having had unrestricted access to Father Allan's material, she published large parts of it, failing to mention that the field-work had been carried out not by her, but by Father Allan. As she concentrated on customs and second sight, her contribution towards place-names is minimal.

Father Allan McDonald died three weeks after MARJORY KENNEDY-FRASER finished her first field trip to Eriskay in 1905. She was an enthusiastic collector, although she had only a working knowledge of Gaelic. Initially noting down the melodies of songs with pencil and paper, but from her second field-trip onwards equipped with a graphophone, she would record songs and, whenever possible, employ a local native Gaelic speaker to take down the words. As Father Allan died before he could keep his promise to note down the Gaelic words of the songs, other Gaels, such as Carmichael and Father Allan's successor JOHN MACNEIL, helped with the Eriskay material. In 1907 Marjory Kennedy-Fraser, accompanied by her daughter, started collecting songs on Barra.¹²⁰ During the following twenty years she visited the island frequently and became friends with ANNIE JOHNSTON, a Barra school teacher well known for her contribution to conserving Barra folklore. The words for the Gaelic songs collected on Barra were transcribed by Annie Johnston.

Marjory Kennedy-Fraser started her recording in Northbay instead of the more densely populated Castlebay, a decision which she justifies as follows:

"We had been warned in Oban that Castle Bay, the chief port of Barra, was now too sophisticated to yield us ancient songs, hence our stay in the north of the isle".

Although Kennedy-Fraser focusses on songs, and from that point of view is of little help to an onomastician, she notes the decline of situations in which old traditions would be kept alive such as spinning, weaving and singing during work. An indicator of this tendency is the replacement of the work ceilidh by the recreational ceilidh, organised for both locals and tourists and usually held in one of the island's village halls.

During the 1920s and 1930s Barra was also targeted by another writer and ethnologist. A number of publications dealing with the Hebridean way of life on Barra were written by ALASDAIR ALPIN MACGREGOR. He spent some time on

¹²⁰In her autobiography, *A Life of Song* (1929), Marjory Kennedy-Fraser gives an interesting insight into her recording habits and the sometimes difficult circumstances under which she carried out field-work on Eriskay and Barra.

Barra until he fell into disfavour with the island population due to his comments on illegitimacy rates in his book 'The Western Isles'.¹²¹ Although MacGregor's style of writing and the information conveyed may not be considered scientific, but rather based on his individual, highly emotional observations, he nevertheless has to be included in the list of outsiders publishing material on Barra.

With JOHN LORNE CAMPBELL's arrival on Barra a new phase of folklore collection began. In his field-work Campbell used modern technology, such as a reel to reel machine, and was able to record the locals' songs and stories in their own Barra Gaelic pronunciation. Campbell's *Book of Barra*, published in 1936, includes an article, written by C. HJ. BORGSTRØM, on Norse place-names on Barra. This article remains the only published source devoted entirely to Barra place-names.

The archive of the School of Scottish Studies lists three researchers who were involved in place-names collection in the Barra group. In 1958 JAMES ROSS recorded shore-names of Vatersay. LISA SINCLAIR¹²², a native of Vatersay, collected some Barra, Mingulay and Pabbay place-names in the period between 1958 and 1960. Sixteen years later IAN A. FRASER undertook the first attempt at a systematic place-name survey. Despite his time restriction of only one week, he managed to recruit a number of knowledgeable informants covering the main island of Barra plus some northern satellites and Vatersay.

All place-names evidence from former collectors will be included in the database and forms part of the material to be analysed.

3.3.2 Local Informants

More than seventy local informants contributed to this large corpus of formerly non-recorded place-names. The involvement of the islanders in the project was a crucial requirement, as material collected from oral tradition forms a far more fruitful resource than maps or other written evidence alone. The importance of the co-operation of Barra's inhabitants cannot be over-emphasised. The success of the project depended largely on their contributions.

Starting from randomly acquired acquaintances, a loose web of possible further informants was soon spun. The most successful method of finding new informants was to ask existing ones to point out other people who might be willing to take part in the project. Reference to previous interviews with their relatives or other

¹²¹See A. A. MacGregor, 1949.

¹²²Now Lisa Storey.

members of the community helped make potential informants less hesitant in participating. In some cases news about the collection of place-names on Barra preceded my contacting potential informants, so that a number of people knew the background to my research before eventually taking part. There were instances in which participation was declined. This has to be accepted as part of the investigation, and without knowing any details, it is only possible to speculate as to the reasons for this behaviour. Possible reasons may be a desire to retain privacy, lack of belief in one's memory, or saturation of researchers asking for help. Especially during the summer months the island is heavily frequented by researchers from national and international institutions, camera teams, and individuals eager to discover their genealogy. They normally go to what the public mind considers to be the "approved" tradition bearers, a handful of people frequently asked for advice on island matters. One informant belonging to that group told me that during the summer of 1995 he had received new visitors on a daily basis, each requesting his help to clarify their family history. This informant proved to be extraordinarily helpful in place-name research, but other people declined to take part.

Although place-names form part of local heritage, as do songs and lore, the informants involved in singing or story-telling need not necessarily be experts on place-names. To characterise the ideal place-names informant is a difficult, perhaps impossible, task. However, there are certain indicators that help in the identification of potentially good informants.

3.3.2.1 Profession

Place-name knowledge is strongly influenced by factors such as profession, place of living, and interest in nature or local history. As mentioned in section 2.8, an informant's exposure to the elements, combined with a need to know the place-names in a certain area as part of earning a livelihood, will provide a high rate of orientation points in the field and most certainly generate a large number of place-names. This means that in a territory like Barra, crofters and fishermen will naturally be the most promising sources. Indoor occupations, such as teaching, religious welfare, or shop- or inn-keeping, do not require in-depth knowledge of the surrounding place-names fabric. Consequently, people working in such jobs may be expected to know less names. However, on Barra this clear-cut division between indoor and outdoor working informants was difficult, if not impossible, to make. Most islanders have at least two sources of income with, in almost all cases, at least one activity being performed outdoors. Nevertheless, the largest

number of formerly unrecorded place-names¹²³ was provided by informants who spent their entire working lives outdoors.

3.3.2.2 Place of Living

An informant's repertoire of place-names is influenced by his or her environment. Although the only Barra emigrant¹²⁴ who was involved in the collection of data contributed an average amount of non-recorded place-names, an even larger amount of material could have been expected if the territory in question had been walked with the informant or at least been viewed from a window.¹²⁵ Long absence from the island will, no doubt, make the remembered place-name fabric become faint. But the opposite, a life-time residency on Barra, does not necessarily guarantee a dense place-names knowledge.

A large majority of the informants had left Barra at one stage of their lives, most often to work either in the merchant navy or in service in Glasgow, so that continuity of settlement was interrupted. This, however, did not necessarily alienate them from the island, as sometimes their families remained on Barra and, in almost all cases, there was a vacant croft waiting for them at their return. With most Barra people a strong attachment to the soil remains, despite temporary emigration to the mainland.

3.3.2.3 Interest in Nature and Local History

A good knowledge of local place-names can be expected from people with a keen interest in the land, its inhabitants and historical events that took place on their soil. This aspect weighs heavier than profession or place of living. Under normal circumstances the three teachers among the informants might not have been considered prime informants, as they had spent their working lives inside the classroom and, additionally, had lived on the mainland for long periods. Despite this, all of them were highly interested in local place-names and proved to have good knowledge of unrecorded names. This might have been supported by the fact that all of them were native Gaelic speakers, could write fluently in Gaelic, and that they had kept their crofts during their absence from Barra.

¹²³This means a minimum of 200 place-names per individual.

¹²⁴Like so many other Barra people, she is now resident in Glasgow.

¹²⁵When the Glasgow informant was contacted by a Barra resident who asked for help in correctly positioning some of his remembered place-names, it became apparent that the mind-map of the Glasgow informant merely had to be reactivated by a fellow islander to produce even more names.

Cases in which a long residence on the island was combined with attachment to a croft, job-related exposure to nature, and a keen interest in the history of Barra, produced prime informants, with one of them contributing more than 420 names.

Other variables in the characterisation of what makes a good informant are gender, travel experience and age.

3.3.2.4 Gender

When analysing lists of informants in theses on onomastic topics it becomes obvious that male informants dominate. This has led to the erroneous conclusion that men's perception of place is better than that of women. It is rather the case that profession and gender-related symptoms are being confused. Traditionally men worked on the croft and went fishing, whilst their wives dealt with family needs such as cooking, child-care and clothing, activities which tied them to the house. In families where this was the case the men's knowledge of place-names covered a more extensive territory, whereas the women contributed names close to their homes. However, in cases where the man was at sea, or where there was no man at all, the female informants who ran their crofts on their own were able to contribute as many unrecorded place-names as any male neighbour. During the interviews male informants would provide names freely. Female informants on the other hand were more reticent and would provide only names of which they were absolutely certain.

3.3.2.5 Age

The informants' ages ranged from early twenties to over eighty. When recruiting informants there was a tendency to be sent to the very oldest members of the community. They were thought to be able to remember all the incidents that had taken place during their lifetimes and also to have the largest collection of place-names. But with failing eye-sight, hearing or even memory, some older people, who possibly might have been valuable informants ten years previously, proved no longer suitable to be interviewed.

On the other hand, younger people were frequently accused of lacking interest in the local traditions and in lore, and were never recommended as possible informants. When VALLÉE undertook his sociological study on the community structure on Barra¹²⁶ he, too, observed the then older generation regretting the loss of traditional values within the younger generation. However, the youngest two

¹²⁶F. G. Vallée, 1954.

informants involved in this study were in their twenties and both knew a fair number of formerly unrecorded minor place-names.

The reason for the informants' average age being comparatively high is practical. When recruiting new informants, which was done mainly during daytime, retired people were easier to trace than young or middle-aged working people. The majority of informants were pensioners, who were not only prepared to spend time looking over maps and giving interviews, but were also keen to pass on their knowledge in order to preserve it for future generations, perhaps acknowledging their own mortality. During my field-work two excellent informants died, having between them contributed more than 260 names. Field-work is a race against time and recording the oldest voices within a community first is wise. Nevertheless, middle-aged and younger people should not be ruled out as possible informants.

3.3.2.6 Repertoire

Although each informant has to be considered individually, I made a few general observations during my field-work. The average number of non-recorded place-names per person lay between twenty and thirty. Four informants remembered more than one hundred place-names each, a number which might have risen had not two of them died during the time in which data was being collected. The other two informants provided more than 350 names each, the information coming from their own memories and from conversations with neighbours, relatives and friends.

Several informants showed a keen interest in their place-names and took the initiative in collecting them. After an initial interview they would arrange ceilidhs or small meetings, inviting other knowledgeable people from the township to their homes in order that they could browse the maps together and stimulate each others' memory. In this way far more names than an informant with an average knowledge of place-names could provide on his own found their way on to the map. The most fruitful conversations were those involving not more than three informants. This was most likely due to the fact that small groups would concentrate on one topic, whereas in larger groups several conversations would tend to take place simultaneously.

The place-names recorded during the initial interviews were mainly names in active, everyday usage. In almost all cases, a second or third visit revealed that the informant remembered further names. For that purpose it was necessary to activate each informant's passive place-name repertoire as much as possible. The names that were eventually recorded had been pre-filtered by the informant, who decided which information was to be shared and which names did not qualify as

proper place-names. Especially when interviewing more than one informant at a time, discussions arose on what place-names were worthy of being collected. Although always informed in advance that the collection of place-names included the smallest location as long as it had a name, islanders were reluctant to consider names that were used in their particular family context only. A Barra family who located *A' Phàirc Àrd*, 'the high enclosure', on their croft, decided to omit *A' Phàirc Ìseal*, 'the low enclosure', in the first interview as they thought it was of too little significance. Only when specifically asked whether there was a low enclosure, as suggested by the existence of a high enclosure, were the family members who had decided against inclusion of the name overruled.

The perception of place influenced the repertoire of an informant to a great extent. The majority of place-names contributors felt confident in their township or the coastline adjoining their township only, and were reluctant to locate names on the map of a different township. Most of them recommended a knowledgeable inhabitant of the township in question rather than making an attempt of their own. A remark made frequently was:

"If you have seen X, you will know all the names!"

This turned out to be wrong, as no two informants gave exactly the same information. No matter how many people had a look at the same map, new unrecorded place-names would continue to be revealed. This observation did not only apply to people who had lived in the same village for the same period of time, but also to members of the same family. Normally one would expect place-names to be passed on within a family and information gathered in one family to overlap considerably. This was not the case in the west coast village of Allasdale. There, the father, a blacksmith, interviewed in 1976, contributed 54 names, his son, twenty years later, 45 names. A comparison of the collected material reveals that of all place-names given by both informants, only one location was named by both. Even more surprising was that the father named a large quantity of coastal features despite having been the local blacksmith and never having been involved in fishing professionally.

3.4 Recent Settlement History

Barra has witnessed the influx of different peoples over the centuries, but until the mid-eighteenth century, hard evidence of habitation could be obtained only

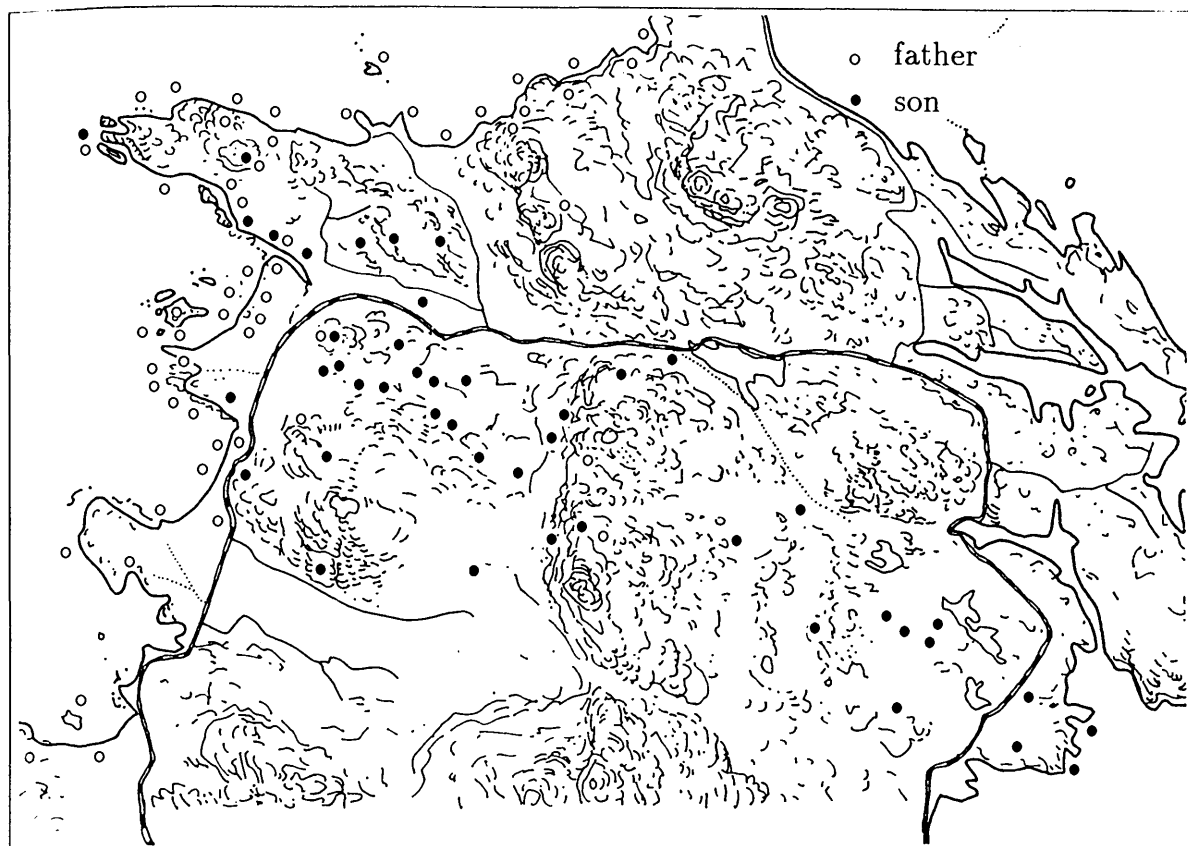


Figure 3.12: Place-name Repertoires: Father and Son

from archaeological excavations. Statistical information is scarce and only became available, in comparison with the mainland, relatively recently. Existing material has to be treated with caution as it is not always clear whether the given population numbers refer to the entire parish including satellite islands, or whether the satellite islands are considered separately. In 1755 WEBSTER published his population survey, which forms the earliest source for Barra, and stated the number of inhabitants to be 1150. Further information is available from *Walker's Report*, the *Statistical Accounts* and, from 1841 onwards, the *Census Returns of the Registrar General of Scotland*. Gazetteers occasionally contain information on population numbers of the islands surrounding Barra, although evidence here is extremely scarce. Despite the lack of data available some general trends in population statistics may be observed.

According to *Webster's Report* the period from 1755 to 1821 is characterised by a constant increase in population, at the end of which numbers have more than doubled. The collapse of the kelp industry in the 1820s coincided with the first emigrations to the New World. Early emigrants moved to the Carolinas, but the vast majority of them went to Nova Scotia. Although these islanders were not explicitly forced to leave, they were strongly encouraged to emigrate, often under

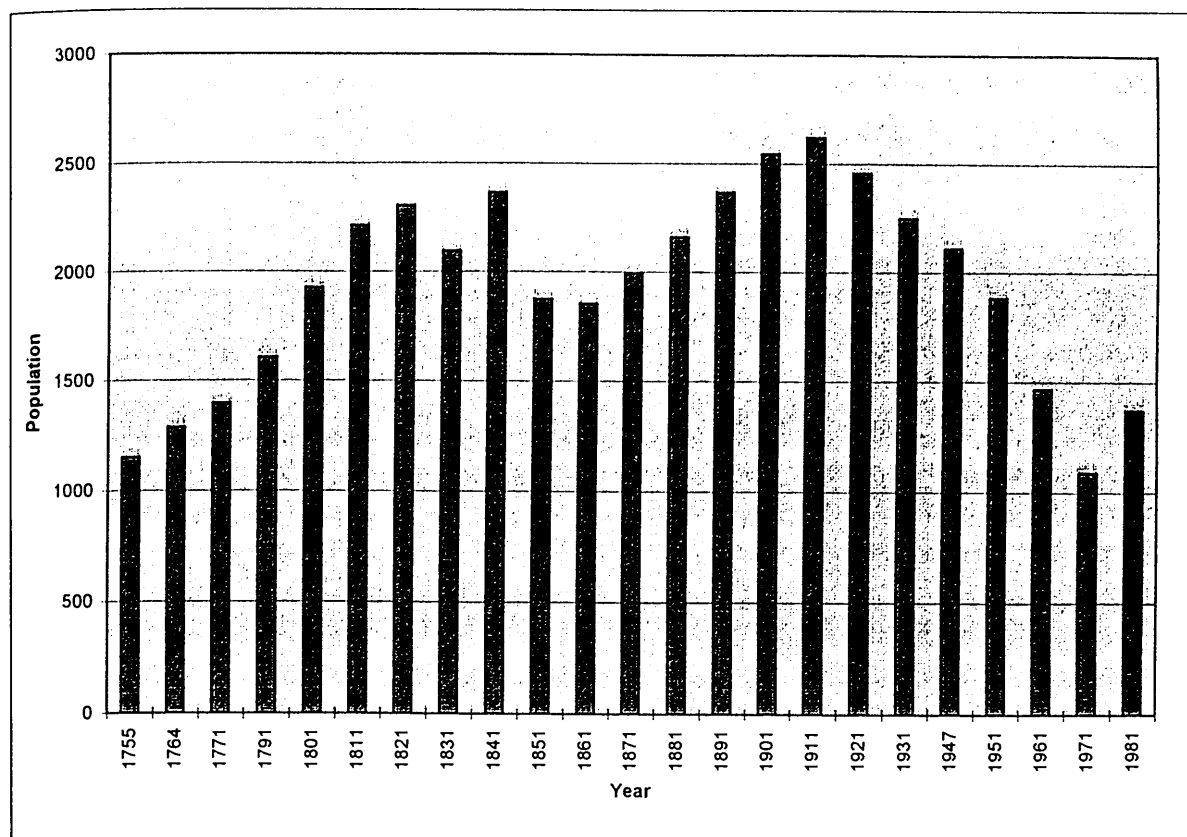


Figure 3.13: Population History of Barra Group

false promises.

From 1821 to 1831 the *Census Returns* show a drop in population of two hundred, but ten years later the population figure had once again reached the 1820s level. These two decades were shaped by a number of uncertainties. The MACNEIL OF BARRA had not been able to maintain his income after the kelp industry ceased to be profitable. Despite his relocation of tenants from the fertile west coast and northern parts of Barra to the barren east coast and some less fertile satellite islands, in order to provide land for sheep, he was eventually forced to sell Barra. During MacNeil's rule he had often threatened to evict his kinsmen but the threat was never carried out. His successor, Colonel Gordon of Cluny, regarding the island merely as a source of income, proved less considerate. From his takeover onwards a number of violent evictions took place with the assistance of the local minister HENRY BEATSON. The failure of the potato crop in 1847 was yet another economic catastrophe which may have encouraged or forced people to leave. Between 1841 and 1851 the island experienced a decrease in population of 500. The best land, that of Vatersay and Eoligaray, was turned into large farms, the remaining tenants being distributed among other townships, thus increasing the number of holdings but not the available land.

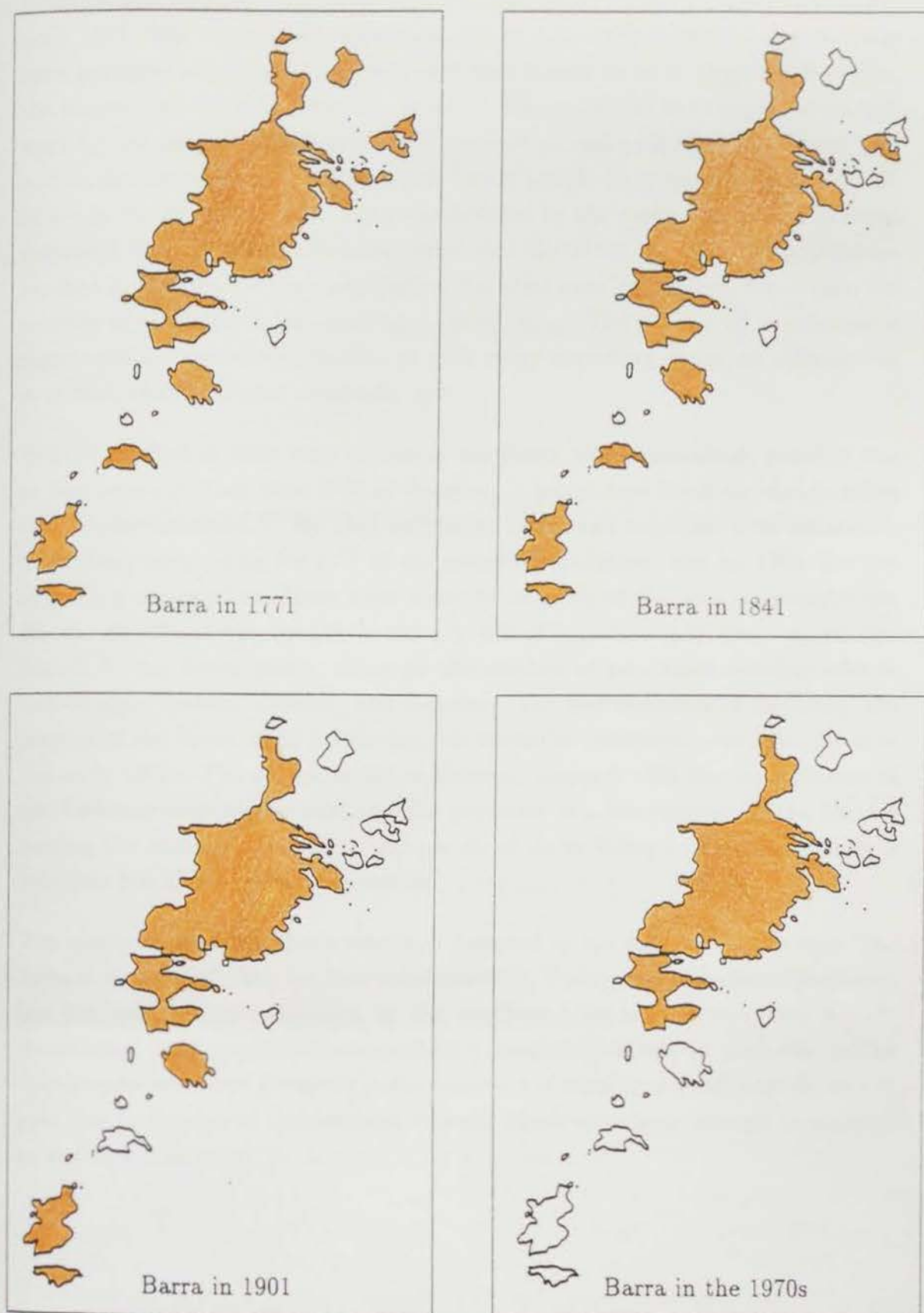


Figure 3.14: Populated Islands in the Barra Group

Between 1851 and 1871 the population remained steady, and thereafter rose slowly until 1911. The NAPIER COMMISSION, which established crofters' rights, must have provided relief to the islanders and encouraged them to stay. Furthermore, the improving economic situation, based on fishing, would have provided enough work for the islands' inhabitants. This came to an end with the First World War and its drastic effect on exports, which forced people to at least temporarily emigrate to the mainland. This trend was assisted by the emigrants' desire to enjoy mainland luxuries such as running water and electricity. In 1971 the population reached its lowest level since population statistics were introduced. Since then the number of inhabitants has once again been rising. The decline of population is regrettable for onomastic studies, as with every departing emigrant information is at first dislocated and eventually lost.

In 1771 we find at least nine islands of the Barra group inhabited, possibly one or two more. At that time 27% of the group's population lived on islands other than Barra mainland.¹²⁷ By 1841 only seven of Barra's satellites were inhabited, collectively accounting for 19% of the group's population, and by 1901 the five remaining occupied satellites were home to only 8% of the group's population. By the middle of the twentieth century 8% of islanders still lived on smaller islands in the Barra group, although the number of populated satellite islands had dropped to two, Vatersay and Berneray. The last residents of Berneray, the keepers of the Barra Head lighthouse, left when the lighthouse was automated in the early 1970s. The depopulation of Vatersay stopped with the construction of the Vatersay causeway in 1991 and the provision of a bus service. At the time of writing the number of people in the parish of Barra living on satellite islands is less than 8% of the overall population.

The northern islands had already been deserted at the turn of the century. The *Census Returns* of 1901 list four inhabitants on Fuday, this document providing the last evidence of habitation of the northern islands. The southern islands maintained their populated status slightly longer. This was in part due to the lightkeepers who kept Berneray in the statistics of inhabited small islands, and in part due to the size of the southern islands, which were large enough to support a healthy community.

¹²⁷See B. Buxton, 1995:132.

4 The Gazetteer

The oldest method of arranging place-names is the gazetteer which provides a general collection of names for a given area. Place-names may also be grouped according to their chronological appearance, alphabetical order, or after their language of origin. A popular approach in onomastics is the classification by generics, followed by sub-classification by topics such as names for water-features, mountain-names, river-names or habitation names. The use of a database allows place-names to be classified under any of the above mentioned categories. Primarily arranged as a gazetteer in alphabetical order, the database enables the user to reorganise the names chronologically, by generics, by language of origin, according to the OS classification system, or according to any other desired criteria.

4.1 Database User Manual

The database used in this study was set up by a committee of Scottish onomasticians under the lead of Dr. Simon Taylor and is still under development. It currently has 64 categories under which a place-name may be listed, including sources, pronunciation, National Grid Reference, parish information, historical information and a full analysis of all place-name elements and languages involved. Because of restrictions on length of thesis only the most important categories have been included.

4.1.1 Topname

The topname is the form of the name found either on maps of the OS Pathfinder Series¹²⁸, the form collected during interviews with locals, or, if not already mentioned on the OS map, the form appearing on Admiralty charts. Names acquired from local informants are noted in the form given i.e. a name may be sorted by the first letter of the article instead of by the first letter of the generic. On paper this approach is restrictive. In the Scottish Place-Names Database (SPND), however, there is an intention to develop mechanisms which will take into account articles and any effect, such as lenition, that they may have on corresponding place-name elements. In this respect a database will provide a more flexible approach than the strict alphabetical order of a gazetteer. As indicated in section 7.5.1.2 below, topnames represent an attempt to restore historically correct forms in the

¹²⁸The OS Pathfinder series was chosen as opposed to the OS 1:10.000 series or to Superplan as it is easily accessible to a broad audience.

appropriate case and gender, rather than a strict rendering into Gaelic orthography of the exact forms supplied by informants, which frequently appear to be in something resembling the genitive or dative case. If a place has two names from different roots it is given two different entries, which are cross-referenced in the database. The mere translation of a name is not given a separate topname entry. Instead the mapped name is listed with a reference to the translated form. If a place has a number of slightly varying names, then the version occurring most often will be entered with reference to the alternatives. To ease identification of names on maps the OS spelling is used, even when it contains orthographic lapses in spelling or accentuation. The SPND provides a separate field for the correct spelling of names. Because of space constraints this study does not include the correct spelling field. The topname is printed in bold font in the gazetteer.

4.1.2 Pronunciation

Borgstrøm's research on the dialect of Barra¹²⁹ provides a detailed phonological system on which this examination is based. The following alterations have been made.

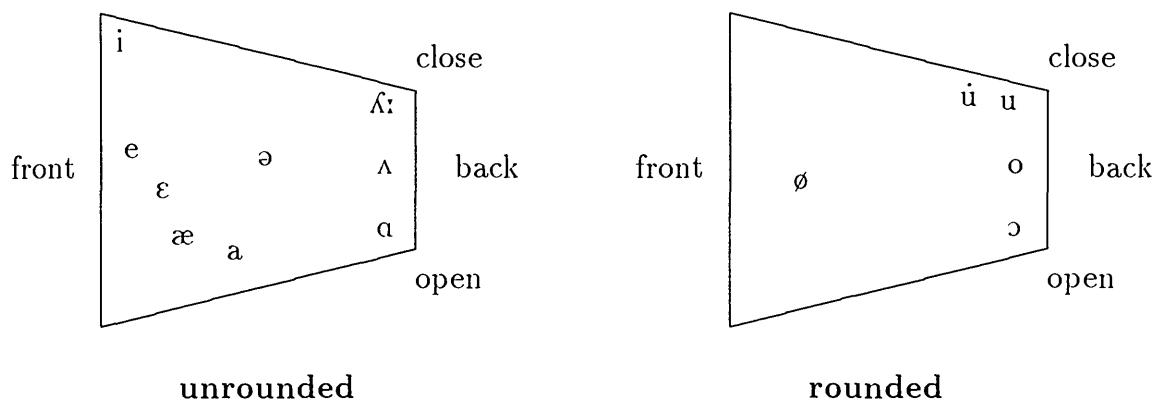


Figure 4.15: Location of Vowels

Half-long vowels will not be explicitly indicated. The sign 'ž' has been changed to 'ǧ'. The nasalized diphthong /au/ is written as [ãũ]. Furthermore, stressed syllables are marked at the beginning of the syllable, in contrast to Borgstrøm's system which accentuates the emphasised vowel. However, an attempt is made to conform as closely as possible to Borgstrøm's notation.

Vowels

¹²⁹See C. H. Borgstrøm, 1937.

/ʌ/	[bʌt]		‘but’
/a/	[mah]	math	‘good’
/ɑ:/	[b̥Lɑ:]	blàth	‘warm’
/ã/	[dãv]	damh	‘ox’
/æ/	[æLəsæt]	Ealasaid	‘Elizabeth’
/æ/	[æx]	each	‘horse’
/ɛ'/	[bɛN'ɔ̃]	bainne	‘milk’
/e/	[sk'er']	sgeir	‘skerry’
/ë/	[b̥ök]	beag	‘small’
/e:/	[b̥rɛ:vik']		Brevig
/i/	[L'ingei]		Lingay
/i:/	[i:m]	im	‘butter’
/ɔ/	[Lɔx]	loch	‘lake’, ‘inlet’
/ɔ:/	[mɔ:N'ɔ̃]	mòine	‘peat’
/o/	[b̥o-ɔ̃]	bogha	‘underwater rock’
/u/	[uʃk'ɔ̃]	uisge	‘water’
/u:/	[k'u:L]	cùl	‘back’
/ʌ/	[k'ʌ:L]	caol	‘narrow’
/ø/	[k'Løʏ]	cladh	‘cemetery’

Diphthongs

/ai/	[aiN'içən]	aibhnichean	‘rivers’
/ei/	[b̥eiN]	beinn	‘mountain’
/ɔi/	[d̥ɔiN'ɔ̃xk]	doimhneachd	‘depth’
/ui/	[Lui]	laoigh	‘calf’
		gen. sg. of laogh	
/øi/	[k'øiL't'ən]	coilltean	‘woods’
/au/	[Lau-əʃt']	labhairt	‘to talk’
/ãũ/	[ãũ-iN]	abhainn	‘river’
/œ, ɛu/	[k'ɛuN]	ceann	‘head’
/ɔu/	[p'ɔuL]	poll	‘muddy hole’
/iə/	[iəsk]	iasg	‘fish’
/ia/	[b̥ial]	beul	‘mouth’, ‘opening’
/iu/	[p'iu-ər]	piuthar	‘sister’
/eɔ:/	[eɔ:RNɔ̃]	eòrna	‘barley’
/uə/	[Ruəʏ]	ruadh	‘red-haired’
/ua/	[uaN'ə]	uaine	‘green’

Labials

/p'/	[p'iu-ər]	piuthar	'sister'
/b/	[b̥o-ɔ̃]	bogha	'sunken rock'

Dentals

/t/	[t'ɑ-rav]	tarbh	'bull'
/d/	[d̥rɔxət']	drochaid	'bridge'
/ð̥/	[əN d̥iNɔ̃]	an teine	'the fire'

Gutturals

/k/	[k'Λai-u]	claidheamh	'sword'
/g/	[g̥Λ:h]	gaoth	'wind'

Spirants

/f/	[frΛ:x]	fraoch	'heather'
/v/	[Lã:v]	lámh	'hand'
/x/	[k'Λax]	clach	'stone'
/ʁ/	[Ruəʁ]	ruadh	'red-haired'
/ç/	[køl'iç]	coilich	'cockerel'
		gen. sg. of coileach	
/j/	[əmuj]	a-muigh	'out'

Sibilants

/s/	[sui-ɔ̃]	suidhe	'to sit'
/ʃ/	[k'Λa:ʃɔ̃x]	clàrsach	'harp'
/f/	[i:ʃaL]	ìseal	'low'
/ʃ̥/	[Λau-əʃt']	labhairt	'to talk'

Nasals / Approximants / Trill, Tap

/m/	[i:m]	ìm	'butter'
/ŋ/	[lɑŋgə]	langa	'ling'
/L/	[Lã:v]	lámh	'hand'
/L'/	[k'ɑL'ɔ̃x]	cailleach	'old woman'
/l/	[bli'əNɔ̃]	bliadhna	'year'
/N/	[k'ɛuN]	ceann	'head'
/n/	[ni:L']	gen. and voc. of Niall	
/N'/	[b̥ɛN'ɔ̃]	bainne	'milk'

Nasals / Approximants / Trill, Tap ctd.

/R/	[Rɑ:v]	ràmh	'oar'
/R̥/	[d̥ɔ:R̥N̥]	dòrn	'fist'
/r/	[g̊'riən]	grian	'sun'
/h/	[nəhɔrəʊ]	Na Horgh	

4.1.3 National Grid Reference

The Ordnance Survey National Grid will form the reference basis. In this examination every topname is assigned a National Grid Reference number consisting of two letters and six digits. A National Grid Reference (NGR) identifies a square area of side 100 metres. In areas of high place-name density, such as *Bàgh Beag*, it was unavoidable that some place-names would share the same NGR number. Although an incorrect OS spelling of a name will be retained for easier reference, all OS errors concerning the map location of a name are pointed out and the correct location is indicated. Such corrections are mentioned in the discussion field.

4.1.4 OS Classification

The site classification system helps to identify what kind of feature is named, as sometimes neither place-name nor map location reveal enough information on the nature of the named object. The mainly land-based OS classification system has been extended to cover Barra's wealth of named coastal features. The following abbreviations were chosen:

- A antiquity: all features in Gothic or Roman print style on OS maps
- I island: all features surrounded by water, regardless of size
- F field
- E enclosure
- P parish
- S settlement: village, farm, other buildings
- T tidal islands
- U underwater features: reefs
- V vegetation: wood, forest
- W water: all features entered in blue colour on OS maps such as streams, lakes, bogs, wells
- O other: any feature not otherwise categorised, e.g. quarries, bridges

4.1.5 Source

To simplify the layout of the source field it has been narrowed down to six possible values:

- AD indicates that a place-name is extracted from the most recent Admiralty chart.
- CR quotes the Craigston Register of Births, Baptisms and Marriages of 1805–1919 which in many cases is the first written source of habitative names.
- ML stands for MacLean’s map of 1823, the first comprehensive map of both coastal and interior features of Barra and surrounding islands. It provides material which has been considered neither by the OS nor by the Admiralty.
- SH refers to estate plan by H. Sharbau, 1901.
- OR indicates that a place-name has been collected from an oral source and that it has not previously occurred in written form. The spelling of the name will conform to current orthography. In this study the individual informants are listed in the introduction but will not be explicitly mentioned with each name they provided. However, in the SPND every entry will be traceable back to individual informants.
- OS marks place-names extracted from the OS Pathfinder map. Any name which appears on an OS map is marked as OS in this study, regardless of whether the name was also obtained from any other source.
- * An asterisk indicates that older written forms of the name exist. This is the case for a number of OS names and a few entries on Admiralty charts.

Full details of the source can be obtained in the historical forms field of the database.

4.1.6 Translation

The place-names are translated as far as possible. If a primary name occurs in a place-name, the primary name is abbreviated to its first letter. The translation of the primary name can be found in the primary name’s main entry. Where an element is obsolete this is indicated by a query. There are a number of place-names whose meaning can only be guessed, or to which more than one interpretation may be given. In these cases the translation field is left empty, as only translations with a reliability of very likely or better are included. Possible interpretations are then given in the discussion field.

4.1.7 Historical Forms

Place-names occurring on earlier maps, charts or documents are listed with the relevant date. As maps and charts are arranged according to their date of publication in the bibliography, and reports and travel accounts according to their author, the following list of sources is provided for quick reference:

1549	Sir Donald Monro	report
1654	Joannis Blaeu	map
1695	Martin Martin	account
1764	Dr. John Walker	report
1794a	Rev. Edward MacQueen	1st Statistical Account
1794b	Joseph Huddart	chart
1805–1919	Craigston Register	register
1823	MacLean	map
1824	MacCulloch	account
1845	Rev. Alexander Nicolson	2nd Statistical Account
1847	A. & C. Black	atlas
1854–57	J. M. Wilson	gazetteer
1865	Admiralty (Otter, Edye et. al.)	chart
1874, 1933	Admiralty	chart
1878	OS	Object Name Book
1901	H. Sharbau	estate plan
1945, 1987	Admiralty	chart

4.1.8 Aliases

This category lists alternative names of a given place. Except in cases where the variation from the topname is minor each alias name will have its own entry in the topname table.

4.1.9 Discussion

This field includes a number of aspects, such as possible derivations, issues with uncertain locations, and additional information regarding usage or folklore. Norse names are always discussed in full.

4.2 Gazetteer

- ‘Annie Jane’** [ˌani ˈdʒen] NL626955 247 O OR
ship wreck
 On the 28th of September 1853 the ‘Annie Jane’, which was carrying emigrants from Liverpool to Quebec, was totally wrecked in Bàgh Siar in Vatersay. Three-fourths of the crew and passengers numbering about 350 men, women and children were drowned and their bodies buried at the shore. See Charnley (1992) for detailed account. H. Sharbau’s estate plan of Barra from 1901 mentions a site marked ‘grave of 280 wrecked emigrants’ at NL628956.
- ‘Baron Ardrossan’** [ˌbarən ˈɑrdˈrɒsən] NL646901 247 O OR
ship wreck
 The ‘Baron Ardrossan’ sank off Sandray during the Second World War around 1940. The crew survived.
- ‘Ben Bheula’** [ˌben ˈviəɫa] NL662963 247 O OR
ship wreck
 “The ‘Ben Bheula’ from Aberdeen went into distress at this location. The boat did not sink, but her helper, the ‘Cyelse’, did.” Michael MacKinnon, Vatersay.
- ‘Brigade’** [ˈbrɪɡed] NF741003 231 O OR
ship wreck
 The ‘Brigade’, a trawler, ran onto rocks just off An Còndrum Fheòir off Bruernish Point.
- ‘Degens’** [ˈdegəns] NF735067 231 O OR
ship wreck
 The spelling of this name is uncertain.
- ‘Empire Homer’** [ˌempair ˈhɒmər] NL642904 247 O OR
ship wreck
 The ‘Empire Homer’ ran aground at Sandray in 1943. The crew made it safely to shore. The cargo, coal, was salvaged by the islanders.
- ‘Gurse’** [ˈgɔrs] NF732004 231 O OR
ship wreck
 In 1947 the ‘Gurse’ from Norway ran aground north of the Caolas a’ Bhristidh Ràmh off Bruernish. As it did not sink most of the ship was scrapped. Some metal parts of the ship may still be found in Ardveenish.
 The spelling of this name is uncertain.
- ‘Maple Branch’** [ˌmepl ˈbrʌntʃ] NL652901 247 O OR
ship wreck
 The ‘Maple Branch’ ran onto rocks at Sandray in the 1870s or 1880s at a time when Sandray was still inhabited. Alasdair MacMillan found the wreck.
- ‘Samuel Dexter’** [ˌsamjuəl ˈdekstər] NF695084 231 O OR
ship wreck
 The ‘Samuel Dexter’ ran aground at Solaicridh during the Second World War. The crew survived.
- A’ Bheinn Bheag** [ə ˈvøi ˈvæk] NL618965 247 R OR
the small mountain

A' Bheinn Bheag <i>the small mountain</i> Alias: Cuialachmore, Beinn na Cuidhe Fhalaiche	[ə ,vøi 'vøk]	NL623988	247 R	OR
A' Bheinn Bheag <i>the small mountain</i> Alias: Ben Bheg Eoligarrry	[ə ,vøi 'vøk]	NF705071	231 R	OR
A' Bheinn Bhiorach <i>the pointed mountain</i> Alias: Carnach	[ə ,vøi 'viRɔ̃x]	NL647915	247 R	OR
A' Bheinn Bhreac <i>the speckled mountain</i> Alias: Beinn na Cailliche	[ə ,vøi 'vræxk]	NL634991	247 R	OR
A' Bheinn Chreagach <i>the rocky mountain</i>	[ə ,vøi 'xregɔ̃x]	NF650002	231 S	OR
A' Bheinn Mhór <i>the big mountain</i> This name has been both misspelt and misplaced by the OS, who on the 6" map located it at NL625964. Sharbau's estate plan of 1901 lists <i>Bein a' Carnan</i> at this location.	[ə ,vøi 'vo:r]	NL626964	247 R	OR
A' Bheinn Mhór <i>the big mountain</i> Alias: Ben Tangaval	[ə ,vøi 'vo:r]	NL639991	247 R	OR
A' Bheinn Mhór <i>the big mountain</i> Alias: Ben Eoligarrry Mór See comments on Ben Bheg Eoligarrry NF705071.	[ə ,vøi 'vo:r]	NF701073	231 R	OR
A' Bhlianag Ghorm <i>the green level spot</i> Alias: Taigh an Tairbh, Bothag an Tairbh	[ə ,vliənək 'gɔrɔ̃m]	NF725016	231 R	OR
A' Bhuaile <i>the enclosure</i>	[ə 'vuəlɔ̃]	NF725015	231 E	OR
A' Bhuaile <i>the enclosure</i>	[ə 'vuəlɔ̃]	NF715016	231 E	OR
A' Bhuaile Àrd <i>the high enclosure</i>	[ə ,vuL''ɑ:Rd]	NL694998	247 E	OR
A' Bhuaile Bhuidhe <i>the yellow enclosure</i> Alias: Am Meall Buidhe	[ə ,vuələ 'vuie]	NL652999	247 F	OR

A' Bhuaile Chlach <i>the stone enclosure</i>	[ə ˌvʉəɫə ˈxlɑx]	NF698002	231 E	OR
James MacNeil locates this place-name at NF696002. In this name the specific is acting as an adjective.				
A' Chachaileith <i>the gate</i>	[ə ˈxaxalej]	NF710016	231 O	OR
A' Chachaileith Bheag <i>the small gate</i>	[ə ˌxaxalej ˈvøk]	NF715023	231 O	OR
A' Chachaileith Mhór <i>the large gate</i>	[ə ˌxaxalej ˈvo:r]	NL646961	247 O	OR
A' Chachaileith Mhór <i>the large gate</i> Alias: A' Chachaileith Ûr	[ə ˌxaxalej ˈvo:r]	NF711025	231 O	OR
A' Chachaileith Ûr <i>the new gate</i> Alias: A' Chachaileith Mhór	[ə ˌxaxalej ˈu:r]	NF711025	231 O	OR
A' Chaigionnach <i>the pair</i> Alias: Bogha Mhic Doonan This name is related to caigeann, f, 'pair', 'couple', and may designate two low-lying rocks (see Dwelly, 1901:147).	[ə ˈxɑigioɲɑx]	NL614983	247 U	OR
A' Chailleach <i>the old woman</i> In place-names the G term 'cailleach' is used for prominent stones.	[ə ˈxalˈjax]	NL573838	260 R	OR
A' Chailleach <i>the old woman</i>	[ə ˈxalˈjax]	NL549816	260 R	OR
A' Chailleach <i>the old woman</i>	[ə ˈxalˈjax]	NL647901	247 R	OR
A' Charaidh <i>the fish-trap, weir</i>	[ə ˈxɑɾi]	NL655977	247 O	OR
A' Charaidh <i>the fish-trap, weir</i>	[ə ˈxɑɾi]	NL656986	247 W	OR
A' Charaidh <i>the fish-trap, weir</i>	[ə ˈxɑɾi]	NL693986	247 O	OR
A' Charragh <i>the rock, pillar</i>	[ə ˈxɑɾəɣ]	NF765047	231 R	OR
A' Charragh	[ə ˈxɑɾəɣ]	NL689990	247 R	OR

the rock, pillar

A' Charraig a-muigh <i>the inner fishing rock</i>	[,xɑɾikə'muɟ]	NL656979	247 R	OR
A' Charraig a-staigh <i>the outer fishing rock</i>	[,xɑɾikə'støɟ]	NL697989	247 R	OR
A' Charraig Bhàn <i>the white fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾik 'vā:n]	NL572847	260 R	OR
A' Charraig Bheag <i>the small fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾik 'vøk]	NF712018	231 R	OR
A' Charraig Bhreun <i>the stinking fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾik 'vɾiən]	NF659049	231 R	OR
A' Charraig Ghainmheineach <i>the sandy fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾik 'gɛnjənax]	NL630981	247 R	OR
A' Charraig Mheadhoin <i>the middle fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾikə 'vĩ:ən]	NL656979	247 R	OR
A' Charraig Mhór <i>the big fishing rock</i>	[ə ,xɑɾik 'vo:r]	NF696096	231 R	OR
A' Chèardach <i>the smithy</i>	[ə 'xæ:rftax]	NF703077	231 S	OR
A' Chèardach <i>the smithy</i>	[ə 'xæ:rftax]	NF675035	231 S	OR
A' Chèardach <i>the smithy</i>	[ə 'xæ:rftax]	NF659030	231 S	OR
A' Chlach Bhàn <i>the white rock</i>	[ə ,xlɑx 'vā:n]	NL696982	247 R	OR
A' Chlach Bhiorach <i>the pointed rock</i>	[ə ,xlɑx 'virɔx]	NL628939	247 R	OR
A' Chlach Fhaireachaidh <i>the rock of the warning</i> One of the stones of the causeway to an island in Loch Nic Ruaidhe is a warning stone which collapses against another stone if a foot is set on it. This was intended to warn inhabitants of the island of unwanted visitors.	[ə ,xlɑx 'eraxi]	NF702017	231 R	OR
A' Chlach Ghainmheineach <i>the sandy rock</i> Alias: Sgeir Feannaig	[ə ,xlɑx 'gɛnjənax]	NL697989	247 R	OR

A' Chlach Mhór <i>big stone</i>	[əˌxˈlɑːx ˈvoːr]	NF717034	231 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> Alias: Cleit a' Chaolais G cleit, f, 'rocky eminence' from ON klettr, m, 'hill'.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NL644972	247 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NF734036	231 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NF763033	231 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NF701107	216 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NF648049	231 R	OR
A' Chleit <i>the rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]	NL704985	247 I	OR
A' Chleit Ruadh <i>the red rocky eminence</i> See A' Chleit.	[ə ˈxleʰf]ə ˈRuəɹ]	NF643018	231 R	OR
A' Choille <i>the forest, vegetation</i>	[ə ˈxøɫʃ]	NF703044	231 V	OR
A' Chorrairigh <i>the lofty shieling</i> The G adj. corr has a number of meanings including 'lofty', 'great', 'vast' and 'stormy'. If a noun it could also mean 'end' or 'corner'.	[ə ˈxɔ̌rari]	NF676014	231 F	OR
A' Chraobh <i>the tree</i>	[ə ˈxrɑːv]	NF761042	231 V	OR
A' Chreag Dhaoimein <i>the diamond-shaped rock</i>	[ə ˌxrek ˈɾøimən]	NL653974	247 R	OR
A' Chreag Dhubh <i>the black rock</i>	[ə ˌxrek ˈɾu]	NF662048	231 R	OR
A' Chreag Ghainmheineach	[ə ˌxrek ˈɡɛnjənax]	NF740083	231 R	ML

the sandy rock

1823 Craignagainach

A' Chreag Ghorm [ə ˌxrek ˈgɔrəm] NL651994 247 R OR
the blue rock

A' Chreag Liath [ə ˌxrek ˈliə] NL645979 247 R OR
the grey rock

A' Chreag Mhór [ə ˌxrek ˈvo:r] NF763033 231 R OR
the big rock
Alias: Creag Mhór an Eilein, Meall Mór

A' Chreag Mhór [ə ˌxrek ˈvo:r] NL550830 260 R OR
the big rock
1901 Eagle Cliff
Alias: Biulacraig

A' Chreag Ruadh [ə ˌxrek ˈRuəɹ] NL566845 260 R OR
the red rock
Alias: Creag Dhearg

A' Chreagan Bhiorach [ə ˌxrekan ˈvirɔx] NL695992 247 R OR
the pointed little rock

A' Chuarraidh [ə ˈxu:ari] NF696019 231 O OR
the quarry
G cuarraidh is a loan from Eng. quarry.

A' Chuidhe [ə ˈxuiə] NL706997 247 E OR
the enclosure, fold
G cuidhe, f, a loan from ON kví, f, ‘enclosure’.

A' Chuidh' Bheag [ə ˌxui ˈvæk] NL651974 247 E OR
the small fold
A' Chuidh' Bheag is a primary name. It forms part of Uamh na Cuidhe Bige. See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Dhubh [ə ˌxui ˈɹu] NF647016 231 E OR
the dark enclosure
See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Dhubh [ə ˌxui ˈɹu] NF672031 231 E OR
the dark enclosure
See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Ghlas [ə ˌxui ˈɣlas] NF718020 231 E OR
the grey-green enclosure
See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Ghorm [ə ˌxui ˈgɔrəm] NL650999 247 E OR
the blue enclosure

See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Mhór [ə ,xui 'vo:r] NL648975 247 E OR
the big enclosure
 See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chuidh' Mhór [ə ,xui 'vo:r] NL699987 247 E OR
the big enclosure
 See A' Chuidhe.

A' Chùil [ə 'xu:l] NL645976 247 R OR
the back, rear part

A' Chùil Bhàn [ə ,xu:l 'vā:n] NF713004 231 R OR
the white neuk

A' Chùil Ghasd' [ə ,xu:l 'gʰast] NL633910 247 R OR
the fine neuk

A' Chùil Ghorm [ə ,xu:l 'gʰɔrɔm] NF675040 231 R OR
the blue neuk

A' Chùil Ruadh [ə ,xu:l 'Ruəɣ] NF656044 231 R OR
the red neuk

A' Chùil Ruadh [ə ,xu:l 'Ruəɣ] NL695996 247 R OR
the red neuk

A' Fhaing ['æŋ] NL635975 247 E OR
the enclosure, the fank
 G fang, f, is a loan from Sc. fank, 'enclosure', 'pen'.

A' Ghlaic Àrd [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'a:rɔd] NL639980 247 R OR
the high hollow

A' Ghlaic Chaol [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'xʌ:l] NF702007 231 R OR
the narrow hollow

A' Ghlaic Dhomhain [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'gʰvən] NF720027 231 R OR
the deep hollow

A' Ghlaic Dhubh [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'ɣu^h] NF682016 231 R OR
the black hollow

A' Ghlaic Gharbh [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'gʰarav] NF699007 231 R OR
the rough hollow

A' Ghlaic Ghlas [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'ɣlɑʃ] NF683014 231 R OR
the grey-green hollow

A' Ghlaic Ghorm [ə ,gʰlaiçk 'gʰɔrɔm] NF729018 231 R OR

the blue hollow

A' Ghlaic Ìseal [ə ˌɡlɑɪçk 'iːfəl] NL639979 247 R OR
the low hollow

A' Ghlumag Mhór [ə ˌɡlʊmak 'voːr] NF708018 231 W OR
the large deep pool

A' Ghuala' Mhór [ə ˌɡualə 'voːr] NF668007 231 R OR
the big shoulder

A' Ghualann [ə ˌɡualən] NF664045 231 R OR
the shoulder

A' Mhiriceil [ə 'viɾəkəl] NF732017 231 R OR
the dark stretch

This name is possibly derived from the ON adj. *myrkr*, 'dark', and ON *áll*, m, 'stretch', 'stripe', 'patch of land'. The name has been gaelicized by adding the G definite article and consequent lenition.

A' Mhol [ə 'vɔl] NF667047 231 S OR
the shingly beach

G *mol*, f, from ON *möl*, f, 'gravel bed'. *A' Mhol* is one of the three areas of the township of Cleat. It describes the low-lying coastal part.

A' Mhol Bheag [ə ˌvɔl'væk] NL637973 247 R AD
the little shingly beach
1901 Molt
See A' Mhol.

A' Mhol Bheag [ə ˌvɔl'væk] NF654029 231 R OS6"
the little shingly beach
1865 Molt, 1878 Mol Beag
See A' Mhol.

A' Mhol Mhór [ə ˌvɔl'voːr] NF653031 231 R OS*
the big shingly beach
1823 Mollmore, 1878 Mol Mhór, 1901 Mollmore
The 1972 entry on the OS six-inch map is *Molladh Mór*. See A' Mhol.

A' Mhuc [ə 'vuxk] NL671951 247 I OR
the pig
Alias: Sgeir na Muice

A' Phàirc Àrd [ə ˌfærçk 'ɑːɾd] NF665029 231 F OR
the high lying enclosed field
G *pàirc*, f, from ME *parrok*, 'park'.

A' Phàirc Ìseal [ə ˌfærçk 'iːfəl] NF663030 231 F OR
the low lying enclosed field
See A' Phàirc Àrd.

A' Phàirc Dhubh <i>the dark enclosed field</i> See A' Phàirc Àrd.	[ə ˈfærçk ˈɹuʰ]	NF706077	231 F	OR
A' Phalla Bhàn <i>the white cliff</i> See A' Phalla Bhàn.	[ə ˈfalə ˈvā:n]	NL621990	247 R	OR
A' Phalla Bhàn <i>the white cliff</i> Derived from ON pallr, m, 'step', 'cliff'. In this generic the dat. has become the nom. form. Locals tend to spell the generic 'fala'.	[ə ˈfalə ˈvā:n]	NF719022	231 R	OR
A' Phalla Bhàn <i>the white cliff</i> See A' Phalla Bhàn.	[ə ˈfalə ˈvā:n]	NF695041	231 R	OR
A' Phalla Bhuidhe <i>the yellow cliff</i> See A' Phalla Bhàn.	[ə ˈfalə ˈvuið]	NL623992	247 R	OR
A' Phalla Dhubh <i>the black cliff</i> See A' Phalla Bhàn.	[ə ˈfalə ˈɹuʰ]	NF698091	231 R	OR
A' Phalla Liath <i>the grey cliff</i> See A' Phalla Bhàn.	[ə ˈfalə ˈliə]	NL624997	247 R	OR
A' Steinn <i>the rock</i> Alias: Kisimul Castle ON steinn, m, applies to 'stones that cannot be moved', to 'hills' and, as in this case, to 'small rocky islands'.	[ə ˈʃte:n]	NL665979	247 R	OR
Abhainn 'IcillEathain MacLean's River	[.ãũ-iniçki ˈlæ:hən]	NL555841	260 W	OR
Abhainn a' Chìdh <i>pier river</i> The specific is related to Eng. quay.	[.ãũ-inə ˈçi:]	NF713076	231 W	OR
Abhainn a' Chìobair <i>river of the shepherd</i> Alias: Abhainn Loch na h-Òb G ciobaire, m, a loan from Eng. shepherd.	[.ãũ-inə ˈçi:pər]	NF709019	231 W	OR
Abhainn a' Ghlinne <i>river of the valley</i>	[.ãũ-inə ˈglinɔ̃]	NL566834	260 W	OR

Abhainn a' Ghlinne <i>river of the valley</i> Abhainn a' Ghlinne feeds into An t-Allt Ruadh.	[ãũ-inə 'ɡlin̩]	NL669980	247 W	OR
Abhainn a' Ghlinne <i>river of the valley</i> Locals apply this name to the middle section of the stream only. The upper part is Abhainn a' Ghoirtein, the lower part is An t-Allt Ruadh.	[ãũ-inə 'ɡlin̩]	NL668992	247 W	OS
Abhainn a' Ghoirtein <i>river of the enclosure</i> Abhainn a' Ghoirtein feeds into Abhainn a' Ghlinne and Allt Ruadh. See Goirtein.	[ãũ-inə 'ɡɔɾʃtʲən]	NL663996	247 W	OR
Abhainn a' Mhorghain <i>gravel river</i>	[ãũ-inə 'vɔɾɔʁən]	NF708020	231 W	OR
Abhainn a' Mhuilinn <i>mill river</i> Alias: Abhainn na Coille, Abhainn na h-Innse This name was noted down in the OS Object Name Books but never found its way onto the map.	[ãũ-inə 'vuL'in]	NF704032	231 W	OS*
Abhainn Ailein <i>Allan's river</i>	[ãũ-in 'æleɪn]	NF716008	231 W	OR
Abhainn Allathasdail a Deas <i>river of South A.</i> See Allasdale.	[ãũ-in ˌaLɑ-ɑsdəl ə 'd̪ɛs]	NF658034	231 W	OR
Abhainn an Eas Dhuibh <i>river of the dark waterfall</i> Alias: Allt nam Breac	[ãũ-inəˌNes 'ɣui]	NL643999	247 W	OR
Abhainn an t-Sil <i>river of the seed</i> Alias: An Abhainn Dhubh	[ãũ-inən 'tʃi:l]	NF708033	231 W	OR
Abhainn Bàgh Chòrnaig <i>river of B.</i> See Cornaig Bay.	[ãũ-in ˌbɑ 'xɔ:ɾ̥ɲik]	NL631968	247 W	OR
Abhainn Bhàn <i>white river</i> Abhainn Bhàn leaves Loch Tangusdale, is fed by Loch na Doirlinn and runs into the Atlantic.	[ãũ-in 'vɑ:n]	NF644003	231 W	OS6"
Abhainn Bhàrnais <i>river of ?</i> An alternative name is Abhainn Bhàrlish. There may be a link to ON blær, m, 'gust', and ON nes, n, 'headland'.	[ãũ-in 'va:ɾ̥ɲiʃ]	NL618970	247 W	OR
Abhainn Bhàslain	[ãũ-in 'va:slən]	NF692054	231 W	OR

river of V.

See Vaslain.

Abhainn Bheannachain [ˌãũ-in 'væNəxən] NL642957 247 W OR
river of B.
 See Am Beannachan.

Abhainn Bhréibhig [ˌãũ-in 'vre:vik] NL694987 247 W OR
river of B.
 Alias: An Abhainn Ruadh
 See Brevig.

Abhainn Chuier [ˌãũ-in 'xuiər] NF658040 231 W OS
river of C.
 Alias: Abhainn Stubhaidh
 See Cuier.

Abhainn Cotan an Laoigh [ˌãũ-in ˌkɔʰtaNən 'lui] NF696053 231 W OR
river of the calf-fold
 G cotan, m, a loan from Eng. cote.

Abhainn Dhrolum [ˌãũ-in 'ɡrɔːlum] NF725020 231 W OR
river of D.
 See Drolum.

Abhainn Eòrasdail [ˌãũ-in e'ɔːRɪsdəl] NL649938 247 W OR
river of E.
 See Eorisdale.

Abhainn Ghluig [ˌãũ-in 'ɡ̊luiçk] NF696036 231 W OS
river of the hollow
 1878 Cluig Burn
 Henderson suggests a derivation from ON glúfr, 'abrupt descent' (see Henderson, 1910:209).
 The correct form is Abhainn Ghlaic.

Abhainn Husabost [ˌãũ-in 'husabɔʃt] NL560815 260 W OR
river of the settlement
 The primary name Husabost could not be placed on the map. It only appeared in combination with the generic listed above. Husabost is likely to derive from ON hús, n, 'house', 'room' and ON bólstaðr, m, 'farm', 'settlement'. Ian A. Fraser observed a similar case in Illeray, where the river-name containing a settlement-name survived, but the original habitative name has been lost (see Fraser, 1973:155-166).

Abhainn Loch na h-Òb [ˌãũ-in ˌLɔːxNə 'hɔːb] NF709019 231 W OR
river of L.
 Alias: Abhainn a' Chìobair
 See Loch na h-Òb.

Abhainn Luireag Phaitir [ˌãũ-in ˌLurak 'fedir] NL655995 247 W OS
river of Peter's cow called Luireag
 Roderick MacNeil translates G luireag as 'bowl'. Dwelly lists 'handsome, shaggy cow', 'water-fairy'.

Abhainn Mhuileann Domhmuill <i>river of Donald's mill</i> Alias: Allt a' Mhuilinn	[.ãũ-iN ˌvʊlˈiN ˈɣɔ̃-əL]	NF661035	231 W	OS
Abhainn Mór <i>large river</i>	[.ãũ-iN ˈvo:r]	NF656015	231 W	OS
Abhainn na Coille <i>river of the forest</i> Alias: Abhainn a' Mhuilinn, Abhainn na h-Innse	[.ãũ-iNə ˈkøLɔ̃]	NF704032	231 W	OR
Abhainn na Creadha <i>clay river</i>	[.ãũ-iNə ˈkrɛ:]	NL654984	247 W	OS6"
Abhainn na h-Innse <i>river of the meadow</i> Alias: Abhainn na Coille, Abhainn a' Mhuilinn Dwelly (1901:542) lists a number of further meanings for the G specific innis such as 'island', 'sheltered valley protected by a wood', 'pasture', 'headland' and 'riverside meadow'. Indeed, Abhainn na h-Innse runs through a meadow, but the most striking feature is the sheltered, wooded valley through which it runs before entering North Bay. Therefore the translation of the name 'river of the sheltered valley' would apply, too.	[.ãũ-iNə ˈhĩ:Nfə]	NF704032	231 W	OR
Abhainn na Sgoile <i>river of the school</i>	[.ãũ-iNə ˈskɔl]	NF708020	231 W	OR
Abhainn nam Ban <i>river of the wives</i> Drinking water out of this stream was considered lucky for those who were on their way to <i>Tràigh Mhór</i> , the cockle beach.	[.ãũ-iNəm ˈbən]	NF683053	231 W	OR
Abhainn nam Breac <i>trout river</i> 1823 Amhinambreak Alias: Allt Loch an Dùin	[.ãũ-iNəm ˈbræxk]	NF689033	231 W	ML
Abhainn Peigi na Cùile <i>river of Peggy from the corner</i> Alias: An Abhainn Dhubh	[.ãũ-iN ˌpegiNə ˈku:lɔ̃]	NL702993	247 W	OR
Abhainn Stùbhaidh <i>Stubhie's river</i> Alias: Abhainn Cuier Stùbhaidh lived in the house at this river. None of his family are still alive.	[.ãũ-iN ˈstu:vi]	NF658040	231 W	OR
Acarsaid Fhalaich <i>secluded harbour</i> Jonathan MacNeil of Bruernish (see bibliography, tape section) locates this name at NF752026.	[.axkɪʃaɪf ^h ɔ̃Lɔ̃x]	NF747022	231 W	OR

Achdin 1823 Achdin The meaning is obscure.	[ˈɑːxkən]	NL565805	260 R	ML
Aird a' Chaolais <i>headland of the sound</i> 1901 Bein Caolas This is an alternative name for An Àird. The OS locate the name at the point of Aird a' Chaolais.	[ˌɑːRdə ˈxʌːlɪʃ]	NL621976	247 R	OS
Àird a' Mhór Phuile <i>headland of the large peat moss (?)</i> Nan MacKinnon (see bibliography, tape section) locates this name at NL649959.	[ˌɑːRdə ˈvoːrvulʃ]	NL642965	247 R	OR
Àird a' Mhurain <i>headland of the bent grass</i> 1823 Ardvuran	[ˌɑːRdə ˈvuRən]	NF734096	231 R	ML
Aird Allasdale <i>headland of A.</i> 1823 Ardallasdale See Allasdale.	[ˌɑːRd ˈalɑ-ɑsdəl]	NF654032	231 R	OS*
Aird Cholla <i>headland of C.</i> 1865 Coll's Point See Colla.	[ˌɑːRdə ˈxɔLʃ]	NL558795	260 R	OS*
Aird Greian <i>headland of G.</i> 1764 Ard Ghrinn, 1823 Ard Ghrinn See Grean.	[ˌɑːRd ˈgʁiːN]	NF651048	231 R	OS*
Aird na Gregaig <i>headland of the little rocks</i> 1823 Arduagroigag Alias: Àird Thangasdail, An Aird The specific is likely to be a misrepresentation of nan creagag, 'of the little rocks'.	[ˌɑːRd nə ˈgʁegak]	NF639006	231 R	OS*
Aird na Moine <i>headland of peat</i> 1823 Ardnamona	[ˌɑːRdnə ˈmɔːN'ʃ]	NL667975	247 R	OS6"
Aird Pabbach <i>Pabbay headland</i> 1823 Ard Phabbach Alias: Rubha Pabach This headland is located on Sandray facing Pabbay. See Pabbay.	[ˌɑːRd ˈfʌpax]	NL640904	247 R	OS*
Àird Reamhar	[ˌɑːRd ˈrãũər]	NL647904	247 R	ML

broad headland

1823 Ardramher, 1901 Ard Ramhar

Aird Rubha Mór	[,ɑ:ɾd̪ ˌRu-ə ˈmo:ɾ]	NL693979	247 R	OS*
<i>headland of R.</i>				
1823 Rumore, 1865 Ru Mor				
See Rubha Mór.				

Àird Thangasdail	[,ɑ:ɾd̪ ˈhaŋɡəsɔəl]	NF639006	231 R	OR
<i>headland of T.</i>				
Alias: An Àird, Aird na Gregaig				
See Tangasdale.				

Àirgeadal a' Choire	[,ɑ:ɾdə ˌkadələ ˈxɔrə]	NL655975	247 R	OR
<i>the headland of the sleeping hollow (?)</i>				
No explanation was given to illuminate the meaning of this name.				

Àirigh a' Ghreusaiche	[,ɑ:ɾiə ˈɣɾiəsiçə]	NF702022	231 S	OR
<i>shieling of the cobbler</i>				
Alias: Àirigh a' Phen				

Àirigh a' Phen	[,ɑ:ɾiə ˈfæn]	NF718022	231 S	OR
<i>shieling of the fold</i>				
Alias: Àirigh a' Ghreusaiche				
The specific is a loan from Eng. pen.				

Airigh Ard	[,ɑ:ɾi ˈjɑ:ɾd̪]	NL652989	247 S	OS6"
<i>high shieling</i>				

Àirigh Bun na Beinneadh	[,ɑ:ɾi ˌbuNə ˈbɛN'əɣ]	NF723011	231 S	OR
<i>shieling of the base of the mountain</i>				

Àirigh Dhaoimein	[,ɑ:ɾi ˈɣɔimən]	NF721019	231 S	OR
<i>Diamond's shieling</i>				

Àirigh Eòin	[,ɑ:ɾi e'auɪN]	NL719926	247 F	OR
<i>Jonathan's shieling</i>				

Àirigh Fhearchair	[,ɑ:ɾi ˈɛɾaxər]	NL673982	247 S	OR
<i>Farquhar's shieling</i>				

Àirigh Fhlodaigh	[,ɑ:ɾi ˈlɔdai]	NF754022	231 S	OR
<i>shieling of F.</i>				
See Flodday.				

Àirigh Meall na Meadhonach	[,ɑ:ɾi ˌmjālNə ˈmi-ɛNɔx]	NF727016	231 S	OR
<i>shieling of the middle hill</i>				

Àirigh na Craobhaig	[,ɑ:ɾinə ˈkrɑ:vak]	NF721032	231 F	OR
<i>shieling of the little tree</i>				

This primary name is related to Rubh' Ar' na Craobhaig.

Àirigh na h-aon Oidhche [ˌɑːR̥inə ˈhʌːniç] NF703037 231 S OR
shieling of the one night

The name *Àirigh na h-aon Oidhche* was given by an informant who said that the shieling was said to be haunted and that people hardly stayed for more than one night. Ronald Black adds that in folklore this place-name is connected with a kelpie, a water-horse, who attacked the inhabitants of the shieling to suck their blood, just like vampires. The proximity of *Loch an Eich Uisge* which is just over a mile located to the west of *Àirigh na h-aon Oidhche* makes the above derivation very likely.

Àirigh nan Treothasach [ˌɑːR̥inən, tˈriːɔːsax] NF735013 231 S OR
shieling of the people from Montrose

Na Treothasaich, 'people from Montrose', was the collective term used by the Barra population for people from the east coast of Scotland.

Àirigh Ruairidh Sheumais [ˌɑːR̥i Ruəri ˈheːmif] NL650978 247 S OR
shieling of Roderick (son of) James

Allanish [ˈæˌlɪnɪʃ] NL593879 260 R OS

Alias: Rubha Alainis

Fr. Allan McDonald lists Eileir-nis and Eile-nais as alternative spellings (McDonald, 1958:287). If a personal name, there are corresponding variations of the ON name Qlvir (Lind, 1915:1247f.) such as Eilir, Aelir and Eiler.

Allasdale [ˈalɑ-ɑsdəl] NF660032 231 S OS*

1654 Allasdel/ Alloisdel, 1794b Allasdale, 1794b Halastil, 1805 Alasdale, 1823 Allasdale, 1825 Allastill, 1827 Alasdle

Borgstrøm notes this name as Alla'asdale with a hiatus on the second /a/. He assumes an /f/ or a /v/ after the /l/ and interprets the name as Alfa-støðull, the 'fairies' milking-place' (Campbell, 1936:239). However, A. has the geographical qualities of a dale. The correct meaning is uncertain. The correct G spelling is Allathasdal.

Allt [ˈault] NF706004 231 W OR
stream

Allt [ˈault] NF706004 231 S CR
stream
 1901 Ault

Allt a' Charbhanaich [ˌaultə ˈxaravaniç] NF696006 231 W OS6"
stream of the carp
 This stream feeds into Allt Heiker.

Allt a' Chàrnaich [ˌaultə ˈxɑːR̥niç] NL687977 247 W OR
stream of the stony ground

Allt a' Chrìochain [ˌaultə ˈxriɔxən] NL687987 247 W OR
stream of the boundary
 This stream feeds into Allt Alasdair.

Allt a' Ghlinne <i>stream of the valley</i> Alias: Allt Alasdair	[,aultə 'ɡlɪn̩ʃ]	NL669981	247 W	OS
Allt a' Ghoirtein <i>stream of the garden, little field</i> See Goirtein.	[,aultə 'ɡɔɪrtʃtjən]	NL636983	247 W	OS
Allt a' Mhuilinn <i>stream of the mill</i> Alias: Abhainn Mhuileann Domhnuill The OS version of this name, Abhainn Mhuileann Domhnuill, is unknown among local residents.	[,aultə 'vʊl'ɪn]	NF661035	231 W	OR
Allt a' Mhuilinn <i>stream of the mill</i>	[,aultə 'vʊl'ɪn]	NF754039	231 W	OR
Allt Alasdair <i>stream of Alexander</i> Alias: Allt a' Ghlinne This OS version of this name, Allt a' Ghlinne, applies to only the bottom part of this stream. Locals have various names for different parts of the river.	[,ault 'æləstær]	NL669981	247 W	OR
Allt Allasdair <i>stream of Alexander</i>	[,ault 'æləstær]	NL688986	247 W	OS
Allt Alasdair <i>stream of Alexander</i> The OS name Allt Allasdair applies to only the bottom section of the stream. The upper part of it is called Allt Bhréivig.	[,ault 'æləstær]	NL694985	247 W	OR
Allt Beag nan Tunnag <i>small stream of the ducks</i>	[,ault ,bʲək̪nə 'tʰunak]	NF691014	231 W	OR
Allt Bhréibhig <i>stream of B.</i> Alias: Allt Alasdair The bottom part of the stream is called Allt Alasdair. See Brevig.	[,ault 'vrɛ:vɪk]	NL692994	247 W	OR
Allt Chrisal <i>stream of ?</i> 1823 Ault Chrisail Alias: Allt Eathasdail G 'allt', stream. The second element may have been misspelt by the OS and could stand for 'crystal' as one informant suggested. The derivation remains uncertain. See Allt Eathasdail.		NL641979	247 W	OS*
Allt Cruachain <i>stream of the stack-shaped hill</i> This stream joins Allt Alasdair at its mid-point.	[,ault k'ruaxan]	NL686989	247 W	OS
Allt Eathasdail	[,ault 'e:əsɔl]	NL643977	247 W	OR

stream of ?

Alias: Allt Chrisal

The OS version of this name is Allt Chrisal. The meaning of the specific is uncertain. It may derive from an unknown element and ON *dalr*, m, ‘valley’.

Allt Gunnary [ˌaʊlt ˈɡʊnəri] NF668013 231 W OS*
stream of G.

Allt Gunnary describes the section of stream between Stapaig Burn and Abhainn Mór. It may be an alias for Duarry Burn.

Allt Heiker [ˌaʊlt ˈheɪkər] NF695006 231 W OS*
stream of ?

1823 Aulthaichair, 1901 Allt Haichair

G ‘allt’, stream. The second element is obscure. It may be of ON origin. The pronunciation simply reflects a local resident reading the name.

Allt Loch an Dùin [ˌaʊlt ˌlɔxə ˈndūːn] NF689033 231 W OR
stream of L.

Alias: Abhainn nam Breac

See Loch an Dùin.

Allt na Béiste Duibhe [ˌaʊlt nə ˌbeɪstjə ˈduiə] NL668992 247 W OR
stream of the otter

Allt nam Bodach [ˌaʊlt nəm ˈbɔdax] NL648905 247 W OS
stream of the old men

Allt nam Breac [ˌaʊlt nəm ˈbræxk] NL640999 247 W OS
stream of the trout

Alias: Abhainn an Eas Dhuibh

Allt nan Gamhna [ˌaʊlt nə ˈŋɡaʊnɔ̃] NL646993 247 W OS
stream of the storks

Allt Nighean Thearlaich NF655025 231 W OS*
stream of the daughter of Charles

This entry, for which no pronunciation was available, never made its way onto the map. In the OS Object Name Book it was marked “cancelled by order 17.5.1877”, probably because it was considered too unimportant.

Allt Ruadh [ˌaʊltə ˈruəɹ] NF666007 231 W OS
red stream

Allt Ruadh flows out of Loch Uisge and feeds into Allt Gunnary.

Am Bacan [əm ˈbaxkən] NL694940 247 W OR
G bac is a loan from ON *bakki*, m, ‘bank’. See Bac.

Am Bàgh [əm ˈbɑːɹ] NL646952 247 W OR
the bay

Alias: Vatersay Bay

G bàgh, m, from ON *vágr*, ‘bay’.

Am Bàgh <i>the bay</i> Alias: Seal Bay, Bàgh nan Ròn See Am Bàgh.	[əm 'b̥aɪ]	NF655040	231 W	OR
Am Bàgh Dubh <i>the dark bay</i> See Am Bàgh.	[əm ,b̥aɪ 'd̥uʰ]	NF708000	231 W	OR
Am Bàgh Mór <i>the big bay</i> The exact location of Am Bàgh Mór is uncertain. It may possibly be an alternative name for Bàgh a' Cnuic Mhór at NF715042. See Am Bàgh.	[əm ,b̥aɪ 'moɪr]	NF715043	231 W	OR
Am Barra Làthchadh <i>the muddy surface</i> This location is a place for boats on the east side of Barra just at Sgoileir Bàn's house (see Dwelly, 1901:38). The first part of the name is derived from G barr, 'top', 'surface', the second part is gen. sg. of G làthach, 'mire', 'clay', 'moisture'.	[əm ,b̥aɾa 'la:ɬəɾ]	NL700994	247 W	OR
Am Bealach <i>the pass</i>	[əm 'b̥əɬax]	NF726016	231 R	OR
Am Bealach <i>the pass</i>	[əm 'b̥əɬax]	NF679039	231 R	OR
Am Bealach <i>the pass</i> The OS location at NF697005 was corrected by a number of informants.	[əm 'b̥əɬax]	NF688008	231 R	OR
Am Bealach Uaine <i>the green pass</i>	[əm ,b̥əɬax 'uɑN'ə]	NL634961	247 R	OR
Am Beannachan <i>the blessing</i> 1823 Beanachan	[əm 'b̥æNaxəN]	NL643958	247 R	ML
Am Bight a Tuath <i>the north bay</i> 'Bight' is related to G bìeadh, the 'bite'.	[əm ,b̥øɪɬə 't'uɔ]	NL611966	247 W	OR
Am Bight a-muigh <i>the inner bay</i> See Am Bight a Tuath.	[əm ,b̥øɪɬə'muj]	NL657979	247 W	OR
Am Bight Beag <i>the small bight</i> See Am Bight a Tuath.	[əm ,b̥øɪɬ 'b̥ək]	NL657981	247 W	OR
Am Bodach 's a' Chailleach	[əm ,b̥ɔdax sə'xal'jax]	NL689990	247 R	OR

the old man and the old woman

Am Bogha Beag <i>the small sunken rock</i> G bogha, m, from ON boði, m, 'breaker', 'reef'.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈbøk]	NL711997	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Beag <i>the small sunken rock</i> Alias: Bogha Beag Chliaid See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈbøk]	NF667053	231 U	OR
Am Bogha Caol <i>the narrow sunken rock</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo ˈkʰɹɪ]	NL618982	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Carach <i>the deceiving reef</i> 1874 Bo Charach Alias: Sgeir an Tairbh, Bogh' an Tairbh	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈkʰarax]	NL743054	231 U	AD
Am Bogha Còir <i>the friendly reef</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo ˈkʰɹɪ]	NL705988	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Dearg <i>the red sunken rock</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈdʒɛɹak]	NL651930	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Domhain <i>the deep sunken rock</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈdʒɔvən]	NL545828	260 U	OR
Am Bogha Dubh <i>the black sunken rock</i> Alias: Bogha Dubh an Dùin, Twin Rocks See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈdʊʰ]	NL541819	260 U	OR
Am Bogha Dubh <i>the black sunken rock</i> Alias: Na Sgeirean Carach See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈdʊʰ]	NL705982	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Dubh <i>the black sunken rock</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo-ə ˈdʊʰ]	NL706982	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Liath <i>the grey sunken rock</i> See Am Bogha Beag.	[əm ˌbo ˈliə]	NL707980	247 U	OR
Am Bogha Mór	[əm ˌbo ˈmo:r]	NL714995	247 U	OR

the big sunken rock
See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bogha Mór [əm ˌbo ˌmoːr] NF666054 231 U SH
big sunken rock
1901 Bo' More
Alias: Bogha Mór Chliaid
See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bogha Ruadh [əm ˌbo ˈRuəɹ] NL627977 247 U OR
the red sunken rock
See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bogha Ruadh [əm ˌbo ˈRuəɹ] NF734026 231 U OR
the red sunken rock
Residents of Northbay call this place *Bogha Glaic Mheallt*'. Locals in Bruernish call it *Am Bogha Ruadh*. See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bogha Tàimh [əm ˌbo-ə ˈtʰæ:v] NL715999 247 U OR
the quiet sunken rock
Alias: Sgeir an Fhéidh
See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bogha Tàimh [əm ˌbo-ə ˈtʰæ:v] NL707985 247 U OR
the quiet sunken rock
Alias: Bogh' Eachainn
See Am Bogha Beag.

Am Bota Ruadh [əm ˌboʰtʰə ˈRuəɹ] NL625948 247 R OR
the red peat bank

Am Botch [əm ˈbɒtʃ] NL645951 247 I OR
Alias: Sgeir Feannaig, Sgeir 'IcillEathain, The Perch
'The Patch' might be a possible meaning.

Am Brioga Beag [əm ˌbrigə ˈbæk] NL740999 247 I OR
the small landing-place (?)
The name may be derived from ON bryggja, f, a 'landing-place', 'quay' or 'anything built'. Local tradition has it that a ship called 'Brigade' ran aground here. A shed of the Dutch herring fleet is said to have been located here.

Am Brioga Mór [əm ˌbrigə ˈmoːr] NF739003 231 I OR
See Am Brioga Beag.

Am Factoraidh [əm ˈfaktəri] NL665974 247 S OR
the factory
G factoraidh a borrowing from Eng. factory.

Am Feadan Mór [əm ˌfedan ˈmoːr] NL636966 247 R OR
the big opening

Am Machair <i>the fertile plain</i>	[ə 'mɑxəɾ]	NL647999	247 F	OR
Am Machair <i>the fertile plain</i>	[ə 'mɑxəɾ]	NF655032	231 F	OR
Am Marbh Alias: Marbh a' Bheirbh One informant pointed out that Beirbh is the G name for the Norwegian town Bergen. However, there was no additional information why this place is called Am Marbh and whether it had a possible connection with Norway. The generic may be connected with Am Parbh from ON hvarf, 'turning', with which Cape Wrath is associated.	[ə 'mɑ-rav]	NL649998	247 F	OS
Am Meall <i>the knoll</i>	[ə 'mjāl]	NL632946	247 R	OR
Am Meall <i>the knoll</i> 1823 Meall, 1865 -, 1901 Meall, Lump	[ə 'mjāl]	NL650945	247 R	OS*
Am Meall Buidhe <i>the yellow knoll</i> Alias: A' Bhuaile Bhuidhe Margaret MacNeil locates this name at NF650000.	[ə ,mjāl'ɸuiʃ]	NL652999	247 R	OR
Am Meall Mór <i>the big knoll</i>	[ə ,mjāl'mo:r]	NL685995	247 R	OR
Am Morghan <i>the gravel bank</i> 1823 Moragh-na hoab	[ə 'mɔ-rɔɾan]	NF707010	231 R	ML
Am Morghan <i>the gravel bank</i> 1832 Movagan-na-Tob	[ə 'mɔ-rɔɾan]	NF707010	231 S	CR
Am Muileann <i>the mill</i>	[ə 'mul'ən]	NL562835	260 S	OR
Am Muileann Beag <i>the small mill</i>	[ə ,mul'ən 'bɛk]	NL675995	247 S	OR
Am Port Bàn <i>the white port</i>	[əɪm ,p'ɔʃt' 'ɸɑ:n]	NF643004	231 W	OR
Am Port Bàn <i>the white port</i>	[əɪm ,p'ɔʃt' 'ɸɑ:n]	NF711003	231 W	OR
Am Port Bàn <i>the white port</i>	[əɪm ,p'ɔʃt' 'ɸɑ:n]	NF648020	231 W	OR

Am Port Caol <i>the narrow port</i>	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'k'ʌ:l]	NL696989	247 W	OR
Am Port Dubh <i>the black port</i>	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'd̪uʰ]	NL636978	247 W	OR
Am Port Dubh <i>the black port</i>	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'd̪uʰ]	NF718028	231 W	OR
Am Port Mór <i>the big port</i>	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'mo:r]	NF731036	231 W	OR
Am Port Mór <i>the big port</i> Alias: Port Mór Màs a' Rubha, Port an Rubha	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'mo:r]	NF717005	231 W	OR
Am Port Ruadh <i>the red port</i>	[əm ,p'ɔʃt' 'Ruəɾ]	NF717007	231 W	OR
Am Prìosan <i>the prison</i> This is a relief feature.	[əm 'p'riəsən]	NL661955	247 R	OR
Am Prìosan <i>the prison</i>	[əm 'p'riəsən]	NL628975	247 R	OR
Amhach Rubha na h-Acarsaid <i>neck of R.</i> See Rubha na h-Acairseid.	[ãvax ,Runə h'axkiʂatʃ]	NF733014	231 R	OR
An Abhainn Bhàn <i>the white river</i> The river is clear due to the sandy ground of croft 7 Eoligarra.	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'vã:n]	NF701085	231 W	OR
An Abhainn Dhubh <i>the dark river</i> Alias: Abhainn an t-Sil	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'ɾuʰ]	NF705038	231 W	OR
An Abhainn Dhubh <i>the dark river</i>	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'ɾuʰ]	NF709003	231 W	OS*
An Abhainn Dhubh <i>the dark river</i> Alias: Abhainn Peigi na Cùile	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'ɾuʰ]	NL702993	247 W	OR
An Abhainn Mhosach <i>the nasty river</i> Dwelly lists the adj. mosach with a short vowel (Dwelly, 1901:673).	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'vɔsax]	NF701092	231 W	OR
An Abhainn Ruadh	[ə,Nãũ-iN 'Ruəɾ]	NF717018	231 W	OR

the red river

An Abhainn Ruadh [əˌNãũ-in 'Ruəɾ] NL694987 247 W OR

the red river

Alias: Abhainn Bhréibhig

An Acairseid [ə N'axkiʂaɪf] NF734010 231 W OS*

the anchorage

1549 Nahakersait, 1654 Hakerset, 1874 Harbour, 1987 Acairseid

G acarsaid, f, a loan from ON akkeris-sæti, n, 'landing-place'. Dwelly lists two spellings of this element, acarsaid and acairseid (see Dwelly, 1901:4).

An Acarsaid [ə N'axkiʂaɪf] NL638949 247 W OR

the anchorage

See An Acairseid.

An Acarsaid [ə N'axkiʂaɪf] NL566806 260 W OR

the anchorage

See An Acairseid.

An Àird [ə'Nɑ:ɾd] NL620977 247 R ML

the headland

1823 Aird, 1846 -, 1865 Aird Caolas

This name applies to the entire area.

An Àird [ə'Nɑ:ɾd] NF639006 231 R OR

the headland

Alias: Àird Thangasdail, Aird na Gregaig

An Àird [ə'Nɑ:ɾd] NL568848 260 R OR

the headland

Alias: The Ard, Tom a' Reithean

An Àird Ghlas [əˌNɑ:ɾd 'ɣlas] NF647049 231 R OR

the grey headland

An Àird Ghlas [əˌNɑ:ɾd 'ɣlas] NL666983 247 R OR

the grey headland

Alias: Cnoc na Féille

An Àird Ghlas [əˌNɑ:ɾd 'ɣlas] NL664983 247 S CR

the grey headland

1823 Ardghlais

An Altair Mhór [əˌNaltər 'vo:r] NL697975 247 R OR

the big altar

G altair, f, a loan from Lat. altare, 'high place'.

An Cadha [ə'ɲɔ̃ɑ-a] NF725016 231 R OR

the pass

An Cadha <i>the pass</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ-ɑ]	NF721025	231 R	OR
An Cadha <i>the pass</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ-ɑ]	NF719024	231 R	OR
An Cadha Cìreig <i>the serrated pass</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ-ɑ 'ki:ɾeg]	NF765038	231 R	OR
An Cadha Dubh <i>the black pass</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ-ɑ 'dʊ ^h]	NL703995	247 R	OR
An Caisteal <i>the castle</i> G caisteal, m, a loan from Lat. castellum, 'bulwark', related to Eng. 'castle'.	[əN 'k'æftʲəl]	NF722019	231 R	OR
An Camus Gasd' <i>the beautiful bay</i>	[ə'ŋɡaməs 'ɡast]	NL635908	247 W	OR
An Caolas a Deas <i>the southern sound</i>	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləsə'ɟɛs]	NL545825	260 W	OR
An Caolas a Tuath <i>the northern sound</i> Alias: Caolas Àrnamul	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləsə 't'ʊʃ]	NL547826	260 W	OR
An Caolas a-muigh <i>the outer sound</i> Alias: Caolas Shnuasamul, Caolas Mór Shnuasamul	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləsə'muj]	NL668953	247 W	OR
An Caolas a-staigh <i>the inner sound</i> Alias: Caolas na Sgeire Duibhe	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləsə'st'ɔj]	NL667955	247 W	OR
An Caolas Bàn 1901 Caolus Ban <i>the white sound</i>	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləs 'b̥a:n]	NL674949	247 W	OR*
An Caolas Bàn <i>the white sound</i>	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləs 'b̥a:n]	NF736003	231 W	OR
An Caolas Dearg <i>the red sound</i>	[əN 'k'ʌ:ləs 'ɟɛɾak]	NL681944	247 W	OR
An Càrn <i>the cairn</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ:ɾŋ]	NL655976	247 O	OR
An Càrn Garbhl <i>the rough cairn</i>	[ə'ŋɡɑ:ɾŋ 'ɡarav]	NL621985	247 R	OR
An Càrn Mór	[ə'ŋɡɑ:ɾŋ 'mo:r]	NL640981	247 R	OR

the big cairn

An Càrnach [ə'ŋgɑ:R̥N̥ɔ̃x] NL550816 260 R OR
the stony ground

An Càrnach [ən 'ŋrgɑ:R̥N̥ɔ̃x] NL690977 247 R OR
the stony ground
 Donald Patrick Sinclair locates this name at NL684980.

An Cearcall [əN 'ŋgærçkəl] NL591873 260 R OR
the circle
 1901 Cearcall
 The OS location at NL593875 is wrong.

An Cearcall Chlach [əŋgærçkəl'xlax] NF694096 231 R OR
the stone circle
 G cearcall, m, a loan from Lat. circulus, related to Eng. circle.

An Cladach Bàn [əN ,k'ladax 'b̥a:n] NL608879 260 R OR
the white coast

An Cladach Dearg [əN ,k'ladax 'd̥ɛɾak] NL571823 260 R OR
the red coast

An Cnap Glas [əŋgr̥ã^hp 'g̥las] NF711029 231 R OR
the grey-green knoll
 G cnap, m, a loan from ON knappr, m, 'knob', 'knoll'.

An Cnap Séige [əŋgr̥ã^hp 'f̥e:g̊ɔ̃] NF648021 231 R OR
knoll of the bent grass
 See An Cnap Glas.

An Cnoc Breac [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'b̥ræxk] NF697001 231 R OR
the speckled hill

An Cnoc Breac [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'b̥ræxk] NF691020 231 R ML
the speckled hill
 1823 Knockbreak

An Cnoc Dubh [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'd̥u^h] NF700034 231 R OR
the black hill

An Cnoc Dubh [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'd̥u^h] NL608878 260 R SH
the black hill
 This name mentioned on Sharbau's estate plan as *Croc Dhu*.

An Cnoc Fraoich [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'fr̥ɑ:ç] NL655991 247 R OR
the heather hill

An Cnoc Gorm [əŋgr̥ɔ̃xk 'g̊ɔ̃rɔm] NL627969 247 R OR
the blue hill

An Cnoc Mór <i>the big hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'mo:r]	NF730013	231 R	OR
An Cnoc Mór <i>the big hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'mo:r]	NL691998	247 R	OR
An Cnoc Mór <i>the big hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'mo:r]	NF669043	231 R	OR
An Cnoc Mór <i>the big hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'mo:r]	NL702997	247 R	OR
An Cnoc Plen <i>the ? + hill</i> G cnoc, 'hill'. It is uncertain whether the specific represents a Gaelicized form of Eng. plain.	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'p'lɛn]	NL680994	247 R	OR
An Cnoc Soilleir <i>the bright hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'sɔ̃L'jær']	NF684017	231 R	OR
An Cnoc Soilleir <i>the bright hill</i>	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'sɔ̃L'jær']	NF711014	231 R	OR
An Cnoc Soilleir <i>the bright hill</i> An Cnoc Soilleir is one of the three parts that form the township of Cleat.	[ə,ŋɡr̥ɔ̃xk 'sɔ̃L'jær']	NF663043	231 S	OR
An Comharradh <i>the mark</i> Alias: Sgeir na Feannaig When the tide reaches the mark there is just enough time to fetch the sheep grazing on Orosay.	[əN k'ɔ̃ ^h ɔ̃Ri]	NF714067	231 T	OR
An Conasg <i>gorse</i>	[əN 'k'ɔ̃nəsk]	NF708009	231 V	OR
An Condram Cloiche <i>the stone dog-hillock</i> 1823 Coundum Dwelly (1901:251) lists conntom, 'dog-hillock'.	[əN ,kɔ̃drum 'k'Loiç]	NF738008	231 I	ML
An Condram Dubh <i>the black dog-hillock</i> Alias: An Condram Fheòir See An Condram Cloiche.	[əN ,kɔ̃drum 'ɖu ^h]	NF739005	231 I	OR
An Condram Fheòir <i>the grassy dog-hillock</i> Alias: An Condram Dubh See An Condram Cloiche.	[əN ,kɔ̃drum 'jɔ̃:r]	NF739005	231 I	OR

An Corran <i>the sickle-shaped gravel pit</i>	[ən 'k'ɔːrən]	NF657037	231 R	OR
An Craobhan <i>the little tree</i> Alias: Greòtal	[ə 'krʌ:vən]	NF654010	231 V	OR
An Creagan <i>the little rock</i>	[ə 'xrekan]	NL695999	247 R	OR
An Criathrach <i>wilderness, marshy ground</i> G criathrach, m, 'wilderness', 'marshy ground', 'swamp'. See Dwelly, 1901:270.	[ən 'k'riarax]	NF675031	231 R	OS
An Curach 1843 - Alias: Gara Cruaidh This name occurs first in the Craigston register of births, baptisms and marriages. It lies south of Higgins Cottage and is likely to designate a rock formation shaped like the bottom of a wicker-boat.	[ən 'kuɾɔ̃x]	NF658025	231 S	OR
An Dàm <i>the dam</i> G dàm, m, a loan from Eng. dam.	[ən 'd̥aum]	NF699089	231 R	OR
An Dìg Mhór <i>the big ditch</i> G dìg, f, a loan from Eng. dyke.	[ən ,d̥i:g 'vo:ɾ]	NF714035	231 R	OR
An Doirinn <i>the promontory</i> 1849 Dorlin	[ən 'd̥ɔ̃rl'in]	NF640004	231 S	CR
An Domhaich The meaning of this name is obscure.	[ən 'd̥ɔ̃h'ɪç]	NL670983	247	OR
An Dòrnag <i>the little fist-sized pebble</i>	[ən 'd̥ɔ̃ɾːŋak]	NF652005	231 R	OR
An Druim Dubh <i>the black ridge</i>	[ən ,d̥ruim 'd̥uʰ]	NF704006	231 R	OR
An Druim Dubh <i>the black ridge</i>	[ən ,d̥ruim 'd̥uʰ]	NL649979	247 R	OR
An Druim Robach <i>the ragged ridge</i>	[ən ,d̥ruim 'ɾɔpɔ̃x]	NL550819	260 R	OR
An Dubhairigh <i>the black shieling</i>	[ən 'd̥uari]	NF675013	231 S	OR

An Dùn <i>the fortification</i>	[əN d̪u:n]	NF693032	231 A	OR
An Fhéith Mhór <i>the big bog-stream</i>	[ə ,Nje: 'vo:r]	NL689985	247 W	OR
An Garrabost <i>the settlement of the enclosure</i> This name is likely to be an old settlement name. As it never appeared on maps before it has not been included in Nicolaisen's distribution map of bólstaðr names. The name is a combination of gerði, n, 'enclosure', 'fenced or hedged field', and ON bólstaðr, m, 'farm', 'settlement'.	[ə'ŋg̊aɾapɔst]	NL705999	247 S	OR
An Gearraidh Àrd <i>the high enclosure</i> G gearraidh, m, a loan from ON gerði, n, 'enclosure', 'fenced field'.	[ə,ŋg̊aɾi 'a:ɾd]	NL637982	247 F	OR
An Gearraidh Creamh <i>the garlic enclosure</i> See An Gearraidh Àrd.	[ə,ŋg̊aɾi 'k'rev]	NF702076	231 E	OR
An Gearraidh Ìseal <i>the low enclosure</i> See An Gearraidh Àrd.	[ə,ŋg̊aɾi 'i:ʃaɫ]	NL636981	247 F	OR
An Gearraidh Mór <i>the big enclosure</i> This name designates the large walled garden in belonging to Eoligarry House. See An Gearraidh Àrd.	[ə,ŋg̊aɾi 'mo:r]	NF703076	231 F	OR
An Gearraidh Ùr <i>the new fold</i> 1823 Gariur Alias: Seann Fhaing See An Gearraidh Àrd.	[ə,ŋg̊aɾi 'u:r]	NF693004	231 E	ML
An Geata Geal <i>the white gate</i> G geata, m, related to Mlr. geta and Eng. gate.	[ə,ŋg̊æ ^h tə 'g̊æɫ]	NF705041	231 O	OR
An Geata Iarainn <i>the iron gate</i> See An Geata Geal.	[ə,ŋg̊æ ^h tə 'iəɾiN]	NL673988	247 O	OR
An Geòdha <i>the gully</i> G geòdha, n, a loan from ON gjá, f, 'gully'.	[ə'ŋg̊jɔ:]	NL695989	247 W	OR
An Geòdha Beag <i>the small cleft</i> Alias: Sloc Ràsaidh	[ə,ŋg̊jɔ 'b̥æk]	NF637005	231 W	OR

See An Geòdha.

An Gleann Àrd [əN ˌɡl̪ˈeʊN ˈɑːRd] NL673987 247 R OR
the high valley

An Gnoban Buidhe [əN ˌɡroban ˈb̥uiʃ] NF717018 231 R OR
the yellow knoll

G gnob is a variation of G cnap, m, which is a loan from ON knappr, m, ‘knob’, ‘knoll’.

An Goirtean [əN ˈɡ̊ɔrʃtjən] NL669992 247 F OS
the enclosure
Alias: Na Goirtean
G goirtean is a loan from Lat. hortus, ‘garden’.

An Goirtean [əN ˈɡ̊ɔrʃtjən] NL669992 247 S CR
the enclosure
1826 Gorstan
See An Goirtean.

An Goirtean Beag [əN ˌɡ̊ɔrʃtjən ˈb̥æk] NL695990 247 F OR
the little field
See An Goirtean.

An Goirtean Buidhe [əN ˌɡ̊ɔrʃtjən ˈb̥uiʃ] NL653995 247 F OR
the yellow field
See An Goirtean.

An Goirtean Geal [əN ˌɡ̊ɔrʃtjən ˈɡ̊æL] NL636956 247 F OR
the white field
See An Goirtean.

An Goirtean Mór [əN ˌɡ̊ɔrʃtjən ˈmoːr] NF688055 231 E ML
the big enclosure
1823 Gortenmore
See An Goirtean.

An Làimhrig Mhór [əN l̪æmrig ˈvoːr] NL637969 247 W OR
the big landing-place
G làimhrig, f, a loan from ON hlað-hamarr, ‘slope rock’, here ‘landing-place’. An alternative spelling for làimhrig is lamraig (see Dwelly 1901:567 and 1901:564).

An Laogh [əN ˈL̪i] NL692944 247 I OS*
the calf
1823 Laogh, 1865 -
Alias: Calf of Muldoanich

An Laogh [əN ˈL̪i] NF770055 231 I OS*
the calf
1874 Calf Rock

An Làraidh [əN ˈL̪ɑːRi] NL654984 247 R OR

the lorry

This place-name describes a rock shaped like a lorry. G làraidh is a loan from Eng. lorry. It is perhaps influenced by G làir, ‘mare’.

An Leac Dhubh [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈɣuʰ] NL652986 247 R OR
the black flagstone

An Leac Mhór [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈvo:r] NL618974 247 R OR
the big flagstone

An Leac Ruadh [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈRuəɾ] NL637977 247 R OR
the red flagstone

An Leac Ruadh [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈRuəɾ] NL571823 260 R OR
the red flagstone

An Leac Uaine [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈuɑNˈə] NF650011 231 R OR
the green flagstone
Donald MacKinnon locates this place-name at NF654013.

An Leac Uaine [əN ˌLˈæxkə ˈuɑNˈə] NL638906 247 R OR
the green flagstone

An Leacach [əN ˌLˈæxkəɔx] NF657003 231 R OR
the place of flagstones / side of a hill

An Leacach [əN ˌLˈæxkəɔx] NL695983 247 R OR
place of flagstones / side of a hill
In its adjectival form *Leacach* means ‘abounding in stones’, the noun describes a ‘hill side’ (see Dwelly, 1901:572).

An Leacan [əN ˌLˈæxkan] NF697078 231 R OR
the little flagstone

An Lèana [əN ˌLˈiana] NF721025 231 F OR
the meadow

An Lèana [əN ˌLˈiana] NL690981 247 F OR
the meadow

An Lèana Glas [əN ˌLˈiana ˈɡlas] NF669011 231 F OR
the grey-green meadow

An Lèana Mór [əN ˌLˈiana ˈmo:r] NL630998 247 F OR
the big meadow

An Lèana Mór [əN ˌLˈiana ˈmo:r] NF672009 231 F OR
the big meadow

The wrongly attributed OS location of Lèana Mhór at NF670006 has been corrected in this entry.

An Lèana Mór <i>the big meadow</i>	[əN ˌLʲiana ˈmo:r]	NF698017	231 F	OR
An Lèana Robach <i>the ragged meadow</i>	[əN ˌLʲiana ˈRɔpax]	NF664033	231 F	OR
An Leathad Breac <i>the speckled slope</i>	[əN ˌLʲe-ət ˈbrʲæxk]	NL552824	260 O	OR
An Leathad Cas <i>the steep slope</i>	[əN ˌLʲe-ət ˈkʲas]	NL676988	247 O	OR
An Leathad Dubh <i>the dark slope</i>	[əN ˌLʲe-ət ˈd̪uʰ]	NF691002	231 R	OR
An Léig <i>the marshy pool / brook</i>	[əN ˈLʲe:g]	NF646001	231 W	OR
An Leth a Deas <i>the south half / share</i>	[əN ˌLe:ə ˈd̪ɛs]	NL693984	247 O	OR
An Lì Dwelly lists two similar interpretations for the generic, each of which suits the location. An Lì may either be derived from G lì, f, ‘the sea’, ‘water’ (formerly fresh and salt water, now fresh water only) (see Dwelly, 1901:587) or from G linne, f, meaning ‘pool’, ‘sea’, ‘part of the sea near the shore’ and ‘bay’ (see Dwelly, 1901:590).	[əN ˈLi:]	NF655035	231 W	OR
An Loch Beag <i>the little lake</i>	[əN ˌLɔx ˈb̪ɛk]	NF722023	231 W	OR
An Loch Beag <i>the little lake</i> 1901 Loch Beg Alias: Loch na Doirinn	[əN ˌLɔx ˈb̪ɛk]	NF643002	231 W	ML
An Loch Mór <i>the big lake</i> 1764 -, 1823 Lochmor Alias: Loch an Eas Dhuibhe, Loch St. Clair, Loch MhicLèoid, Loch Tangusdale	[əN ˌLɔx ˈmo:r]	NL645988	247 W	ML*
An Lón Beag <i>the little pool</i>	[əN ˌLɔn ˈb̪ɛk]	NF717011	231 F	OR
An Lón Dubh <i>the dark pool</i>	[əN ˌLɔn ˈd̪uʰ]	NF738094	231 F	OR
An Lón Gorm <i>the blue pool</i>	[əN ˌLɔn ˈɡ̊ɔrɔm]	NF665040	231 F	OR
An Lón Mór	[əN ˌLɔn ˈmo:r]	NF655020	231 F	OR

the big pool

An Luba Dhomhain <i>the deep marsh</i>	[əN ˌLubə ˈɾɔ̃vən]	NF710002	231 F	OR
An Lùdag The dictionary meaning is the ‘little finger’, ‘joint’. (Dwelly, 1901:606)	[əN ˈLuːdak]	NL669980	247 R	OR
An Lùir The meaning is obscure.	[əN ˈLuːr]	NL551812	260 I	OR
An Oitir <i>sand bank</i> Alias: Oitir a’ Bhàigh G bàgh, m, a loan from ON vágr, m, ‘bay’.	[əN ˈɔxtˈir]	NL645966	247 W	OR
An Oitir Àrd <i>the high sand bank</i>	[əNɔxtˈir ˈɑːɾd]	NL677941	247 W	OR
An Rochd Mhór <i>the large sunken, tangle-grown rock</i> G roc, f, ‘wrinkle’, ‘tangle-grown rock’, ‘kind of species of seaweed’ (see Dwelly 1901:764) is likely to be a loan from ON hrukka, f, ‘fold’, ‘wrinkle’.	[əN Rɔxk ˈvoɪr]	NL684957	247 U	OR
An Rodha <i>the watermark</i> Alias: Maclean’s Point, Rubha MhicillEathain	[əN ˈRɔ̃ː]	NL568804	260 R	OR
An Rubha <i>the point</i>	[əN ˈRu-ɔ̃]	NL647939	247 R	OR
An Rubha <i>the point</i> Alias: Huilish More	[əN ˈRu-ɔ̃]	NL621948	247 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NL667958	247 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NF718028	231 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NF649021	231 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NL569821	260 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NF652032	231 R	OR
An Rubha Dubh <i>the black point</i>	[əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ]	NL667970	247 R	OR

the black point

An Rubha Dubh [əN ˌRu-ə ˈd̪uʰ] NL686973 247 R OR

the black point

Alias: Ru-Fear-Vatersay

An Rubha Liath [əN ˌRu-ə ˈliə] NL700986 247 R OR

grey-blue point

An Scarp [əN ˈskˈarp] NL631942 247 S OR

Alias: Vatersay Village

Dwelly lists G sgarbh meaning ‘shallow water’ or ‘ford’. Unless the informant intended to name Loch Pheigi, which is located in Vatersay Village, it is unlikely that this name is based on Gaelic. Rygh lists Skarðas a farm name. There is an island called An Scarp in Harris.

An Seann Chìdh' [ə ˌʃɛUN ˈçi:] NL664983 247 W OR

the old pier

G cidhe, m, related to Eng. quay.

An Seanna Bhaile [ə ˌʃɛNə ˈvaɪə] NF747042 231 S

the old village

This primary name is related to Rubh' an t-Seana Bhalla. Hellisay used to be inhabited.

An Sgala Beag [əN ˌskˈalə ˈb̥ɛk] NF683004 231 R OR

the small rock

An Sgala Mór [əN ˌskˈalə ˈmo:r] NF668000 231 R AD

the large rock

1865 Scalla

Alias: Sgala

An Sgàthan Mór [əN ˌskˈahan ˈmo:r] NL629962 247 R OR

the big mirror

An Sgeir Bheag [əN ˌskˈer ˈv̥ɛk] NL562808 260 I ML

the little skerry

1823 Skerveg, 1865 Shelter Rock

Alias: Shelter Rock

G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, ‘skerry’, ‘rock surrounded by water’.

An Sgeir Charach [əN ˌskˈer ˈkarax] NL625923 247 I AD

the deceiving skerry

1865 Sgeir a' Charach

Malcolm MacAulay (see bibliography, tape section) gives the plural version of this name, Na Sgeirean Carach. See An Sgeir Bheag.

An Sgeir Dhubh [əN ˌskˈer ˈɾuʰ] NL627916 247 I OR

the black skerry

Alias: Na Ludagain, Sheader Rocks

See An Sgeir Bheag.

An Sgeir Dhubh <i>the black skerry</i> See An Sgeir Bheag.	[əN ˌsk'er' 'ɹu ^h]	NL687970	247 I	OR
An Sgeir Ghlas <i>the grey-green skerry</i> Alias: Sgeir Ghlas Dhrolum See An Sgeir Bheag.	[əN ˌsk'er' 'ɹlas]	NF728022	231 I	OR
An Sgeir Liath <i>the grey-blue skerry</i> An Sgeir Bheag.	[əN ˌsk'er' 'liə]	NF632007	231 I	OR
An Sgeir Liath <i>the grey-blue skerry</i> 1654 Sgyr lia, 1823 Skerlia See An Sgeir Bheag.	[əN ˌsk'er' 'liə]	NF718006	231 T	OR*
An Sgeir Mhór <i>the big skerry</i> 1874 Sgeir Vore, 1823 Skervore, 1901 Sgeir Vore Alias: Sgeir Mhór Tràigh Chragain An Sgeir Bheag.	[əN ˌsk'er' 'vo:r]	NF717068	231 I	AD
An Sgeir Mhór <i>big skerry of H.</i> Alias: Sgeir Mhór na Horgh	[əN ˌsk'er' 'vo:r]	NL661980	247 I	OR
An Sgòr Bàn <i>the white cleft</i> G sgòr, m, 'sharp rock', is a Norse loan (see MacBain, 1911:318).	[əN ˌsk'ɔr' 'b̥am]	NL549836	260 R	OR
An Sgòr Buidhe <i>the yellow cleft</i> See An Sgòr Ban.	[əN ˌsk'ɔr' 'b̥uiʃ]	NL637978	247 R	OR
An Sgòr Buidhe <i>the yellow cleft</i> Alias: Sgòr a' Chait This name is used by the older generation. See An Sgòr Ban.	[əN ˌsk'ɔr' 'b̥uiʃ]	NF703035	231 R	OR
An Sgòr Buidhe <i>the yellow cleft</i> See An Sgòr Ban.	[əN ˌsk'ɔr' 'b̥uiʃ]	NF660017	231 R	OR
An Sgùdag G sgùdag means 'little boat' or 'little cluster'. It is impossible to trace back the precise meaning of this place-name.	[əN ˌsk'ʉ:dak]	NF718015	231	OR
An Sgùdag <i>the little cluster</i>	[əN ˌsk'ʉ:dak]	NL698989	247 R	OR

See An Sgùdag.

An Sgùid Ruadh <i>the red cluster (?)</i>	[əN ˌskutʃ ˈRuəɹ]	NL549842	260 W	OR
An Sgùmban <i>the summit</i>	[əN ˈsku:mban]	NL660997	247 R	OR
An Sgùmban a Tuath <i>the northern summit</i> Alias: Creagan Móra	[ˌsku:mbanə ˈtʰuʃ]	NL661996	247 R	OR
An Sgùmban an Ear <i>the eastern summit</i> Alias: Creagan Móra	[ˌsku:mbanə ˈNe:ər]	NL664994	247 R	OR
An Sgùmban Meadhoin <i>the middle summit</i> Alias: Creagan Móra	[əN ˌsku:mban ˈmi-ɛN]	NL662995	247 R	OR
An Sìthean <i>the fairy knoll</i>	[əN ˈʃi:ɛɪN]	NF650003	231 R	OS
An Sìthean Ruadh <i>the red fairy knoll</i> This place is named An Sidhean on the OS 6" map.	[əN ˌʃi:ɛɪN ˈRuəɹ]	NF652004	231 R	OR
An Sloc <i>the gully</i> G sloc, m, ‘pit’, ‘den’, ‘gully’, is related to Eng. slough and Ger. Schlucht.	[əN ˈslɔxk]	NL676972	247 W	OR
An Sloc Caol <i>the narrow gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ˌslɔx ˈkʰɛɪl]	NF652046	231 W	OR
An Sloc Carach <i>the twisted gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ˌslɔx ˈkarax]	NF631004	231 W	OR
An Sloc Dubh <i>the black gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ˌslɔxk ˈd̪uʰ]	NF724022	231 W	OR
An Sloc Dubh <i>the black gully</i> Alias: Sloc an Tairbh See An Sloc.	[əN ˌslɔxk ˈd̪uʰ]	NF658049	231 W	OR
An Sloc Dubh <i>the black gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ˌslɔxk ˈd̪uʰ]	NF663048	231 W	OR

An Sloc Dubh <i>the black gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'd̪u ^h]	NL707990	247 W	OR
An Sloc Gainmheineach <i>the sandy gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'ɡɛnjənɔx]	NL628936	247 W	OR
An Sloc Gorm <i>the blue gully</i> Alias: Sloc Chalman See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'ɡɔrɔm]	NL620950	247 W	OR
An Sloc Gorm <i>the blue gully</i> Alias: Sloc Néill Chailein, Sloc Chailein See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'ɡɔrɔm]	NL628982	247 W	OR
An Sloc Gorm <i>the blue gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'ɡɔrɔm]	NL706998	247 W	OR
An Sloc Gorm <i>the blue gully</i> Alias: Sloc Gorm Leithinis See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'ɡɔrɔm]	NL701992	247 W	OR
An Sloc Mór <i>the big gully</i> Alias: Sloc an Éisg, Sloc Grisivick See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'mo:r]	NL622939	247 W	OR
An Sloc Mór <i>the big gully</i> See An Sloc.	[əN ,slɔxk 'mo:r]	NL654918	247 W	OR
An Sruth <i>the current / stream</i>	[ə 'stru ^h]	NF718014	231 W	OR
An Sruth <i>the current / stream</i> Alias: Sruth a' Bhàigh Bhig	[ə 'stru ^h]	NL656978	247 W	OR
An Sruthan <i>the little stream</i>	[ə 'struan]	NF675036	231 W	OR
An Sruthan <i>the little stream</i>	[ə 'struan]	NL638978	247 W	OR
An Sruthan Bàn	[ə ,struan 'b̪ɑ:m]	NF659040	231 W	OR

the white stream

An Sruthan Bàn runs from the golf course in southerly direction into Abhainn Cuier.

An Sruthan Beag [əˌstruanˈb̥ək] NL652974 247 W OR
the small rivulet

An Steallag [ənˈst̪ɛl̪ak] NF706003 231 W OR
the small waterfall
Diminutive form of G steall, f, ‘spout’, ‘cataract’.

An Stéisean [ənˈst̪æːʃn] NL655975 247 S OR
the curing station
A loan from Eng. station.

An t-Allt Mhór [əˌn̪aʊlt̪əˈvoːr] NF671034 231 W OR
the big stream

An t-Allt Rogaidh [əˌn̪aʊlt̪əˈrɔːki] NL634982 247 W OR
the ? stream
It is not possible to say whether the specific derives from G rocach, ‘curly’, ‘rocky’ (Dwelly, 1901:764) or from the Eng. adj. ‘rocky’.

An t-Allt Ruadh [əˌn̪aʊlt̪əˈruəɾ] NF678007 231 W OR
the red stream
This is not a river but still water.

An t-Allt Ruadh [əˌn̪aʊlt̪əˈruəɾ] NF671036 231 W OR
the red stream
An t-Allt Ruadh forms the upper section of what later becomes Abhainn Cuier.

An t-Allt Ruadh [əˌn̪aʊlt̪əˈruəɾ] NL673982 247 W OR
the red stream
The part of Abhainn a’ Ghlinne adjoining Morag MacNeil’s croft is called An t-Allt Ruadh.

An t-Aonach Pabach [nəˌh̪ɔːniːçˈf̪apax] NL594873 260 R OR
the Pabbay plateaux
Alias: The Hoe
See Pabbay.

An t-Eilean Beag [əˌɟel̪ˈɛnˈb̥ək] NF712028 231 I OR
the small island
A combination of G eilean, m, a loan from ON eyland, ‘island’ and the G adj. beag, ‘small’.

An t-Eilean Beag [əˌɟel̪ˈɛnˈb̥ək] NF706032 231 I OR
the small island
Alias: Eilean nan Rodan, Eilean na Craoibh, Eilean nan Gèadh, Statue Island
See An t-Eilean Beag.

An t-Eilean Beag [əˌɟel̪ˈɛnˈb̥ək] NL705994 247 I OR
the small island
See An t-Eilean Beag.

An t-Eilean Beag <i>the small island</i> Alias: Eilean nan Rodan, An t-Eilean Dubh See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'b̥ɛk]	NF660049	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Beag <i>the small island</i> 1823 Ellenbeg See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'b̥ɛk]	NL655919	247 I	ML
An t-Eilean Creagach <i>the rocky island</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'k'regax]	NL703993	247 I	OR
An t-Eilean Creige <i>the rock island</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'k'regɔ̃]	NL707999	247 I	OR
An t-Eilean Dubh <i>the black island</i> Alias: An t-Eilean Beag, Eilean nan Rodan See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'd̥u ^h]	NF660049	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Dubh <i>the black island</i> Alias: Eilean nan Rodan See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'd̥u ^h]	NL665973	247 I	OR
An t-Eilean Glas <i>the grey-green island</i> Alias: Na h-Eileanan Glas See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'glas]	NF710046	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Mór <i>the big island</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'mo:r]	NF714027	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Mór <i>the big island</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'mo:r]	NF762039	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Mór <i>the big island</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN 'mo:r]	NF702018	231 I	OR
An t-Eilean Uaine <i>the green island</i> 1878 Eilean Uaine Alias: Green Island, Arnamul	[ə ,ɕel'ɛN u'an'ə]	NL545825	260 I	OR*

An t-Seòlaid a Deas <i>the southern harbour passage</i>	[ə ˌɔːlɑːfə ˈdʒes]	NL619981	247 W	OR
An t-Seòlaid a Tuath <i>the northern harbour passage</i>	[ə ˌɔːlɑːfə ˈtʰuð]	NL620984	247 W	OR
An t-Sròn <i>the nose</i> 1823 Strachumpain Alias: Sròn a' Chruimpain	[ən ˈtrɔːn]	NF656007	231 R	OR
An t-Sròn Bhuidhe <i>the yellow promontory</i>	[ə ˌstrɔːn ˈvuið]	NL705993	247 R	OR
An t-Sròn Fheòir <i>the promontory of the hay</i>	[ə ˌstrɔːn ˈfjɔːr]	NL656909	247 R	OR
An t-Sùil Gainmheineach <i>the sandy eye</i> Alias: West Sand 1823 Suilgainacha Suilean Gainmheineach is an alternative interpretation given by Fr. Allan McDonald (1958:233).	[ə ˌduːl ˈɡɛnjənəx]	NL626936	247 R	ML
An t-Uachdar <i>the summit / upper part</i> Uachdar designates the upper part of the township of Cleat.	[ən ˈtʰuəxkər]	NF672042	231 S	OR
An Taigh Chlach <i>the stone house</i> Joseph MacDougall locates this name at NL668992.	[ən ˌtøj ˈxlɑx]	NL669998	247 S	OR
An Taigh Geal <i>the white house</i> Alias: Eoligarrey House, An Taigh Mór The 'white house' designates 'Eoligarrey House', which used to be whitewashed on a regular basis. The house served as an orientation mark for fishermen but is now demolished.	[ən ˌtøj ˈɡil]	NF703077	231 S	OR
An Taigh Mór <i>the big house</i> Alias: Eoligarrey House, An Taigh Geal	[ən ˌtøj ˈmoːr]	NF703077	231 S	OR
An Taobh Beag <i>the small side</i> Alias: Taobhan Beag	[ən ˌtʰɑːv ˈbøk]	NL601895	260 R	OR
An Taobh Siar <i>the west side</i>	[ən ˌtʰɑːv ˈiəR]	NF644000	231 F	OR
An Tìr Ruadh <i>the red land</i>	[ən ˌʈiː ˈRuəʁ]	NF644003	231 F	OR

G tìr, m, related to OIr. tír and to Lat. terra.

An Tobar <i>the well</i>	[əN 't'opər]	NL634946	247 W	OR
An Tobar <i>the well</i>	[əN 't'opər]	NF679033	231 W	OR
An Tobar Dubh <i>the black well</i>	[əN 't'opər 'dʊʰ]	NF723020	231 W	OR
An Tobar Ruadh <i>the red well</i>	[əN 't'opə 'Ruər]	NF704043	231 W	OR
An Tobar Ruadh <i>the red well</i>	[əN 't'opə 'Ruər]	NF703021	231 W	OR
An Tobar Ruadh <i>the red well</i>	[əN 't'opə 'Ruər]	NL705994	247 W	OR
An Tobhta <i>the ruin</i>	[əN 't'oʰtʃ]	NF671032	231 S	OR
G tobhta, f, a loan from ON toft, topt, a 'clearing', 'space enclosed by roofless walls'.				
An Tobhta <i>the ruin</i> See An Tobhta.	[əN 't'oʰhtʃ]	NF669035	231 S	OR
An Tobhta Ruadh <i>the red ruin</i> See An Tobhta.	[əN 't'oʰtə 'Ruər]	NF675043	231 S	OR
An Toll Beag <i>the little hollow</i>	[əN 't'ɔul'bæk]	NL571852	260 R	OR
An Toll Gorm <i>the blue hollow</i> See An Toll Bheag.	[əN 't'ɔul'gɔ-rɔm]	NL648968	247 R	OR
An Tom Buidhe <i>the yellow knoll</i>	[əN 'tɔm 'bʊiʃ]	NL627982	247 R	OR
An Torr Chlach <i>the stony round hillock</i> G tòrr, m, related to Lat. turris, 'tower'.	[əN 'tɔr 'xlɑx]	NL655977	247 R	OR
An Tràigh a Deas <i>the south beach</i> Alias: North Sand 1823 Traindeis	[əN 'dra:'tʃes]	NL636939	247 R	OR

An Tràigh a Deas <i>the south beach</i> Alias: Tràigh a Deas Shanndraigh	[əN ˌdra:ˈɕes]	NL653910	247 R	OR
An Tràigh Bheag Alias: Centre Sand <i>the little beach</i>	[əN ˌdra:ˈvæk]	NL634937	247 R	OR
An Tràigh Bheag <i>the little beach</i>	[əN ˌdra:ˈvæk]	NL707999	247 R	OR
An Tràigh Bheag <i>the little beach</i>	[əN ˌdra:ˈvæk]	NF717008	231 R	OR
An Tràigh Bheag <i>the little beach</i>	[əN ˌdra:ˈvæk]	NF676050	231 R	OR
An Tràigh Bheag <i>the little beach</i> Alias: Tràigh Shanndraigh	[əN ˌdra:ˈvæk]	NL650921	247 R	OR
An Tràigh Chragain <i>the rocky beach</i> 1823 Traichroagan	[əN ˌdra:ˈxragain]	NF713066	231 R	ML
An Tràigh Gharbh <i>the rough beach</i>	[əN ˌdra:ˈjarav]	NL664957	247 R	OR
An Tràigh Tuath <i>the north beach</i> This primary name was extracted from Boghannan na Tràigh Tuath, which lies opposite.	[əN ˌdra:ˈtuə]	NL659959	247 R	OR
An Tucaid <i>the dove cot</i> G tucaid, f, related to Sco. doocot, ‘dove-cot’.	[əN ˈduxkat]	NF707078	231 O	OR
An Uamh <i>the cave</i>	[əˈNuãv]	NF725008	231 O	OR
An Uamh <i>the cave</i>	[əˈNuãv]	NF735012	231 R	OR
An Uamh <i>the cave</i>	[əˈNuãv]	NL549812	260 R	OR
An Uamh <i>the cave</i>	[əˈNuãv]	NL603899	260 O	OR
An Uamh Bheag <i>the little cave</i>	[əˈNuã ˈvæk]	NF750038	231 R	OR

An Uidh Gheal <i>the white isthmus, ford</i>	[ə,Nuj 'j'æɪ]	NL659959	247 R	OR
Joseph Sinclair locates this name at NL651956. G uidh, f, a loan from ON eið, 'isthmus', 'neck of land'.				
An Uidh Riabhach <i>the brindled isthmus, ford</i>	[ə,Nuj 'Riəvax]	NL655959	247 R	ML
1823 Uieriach, 1865 Muriach The OS use the simplex form, Uidh. G uidh, f, a loan from ON eið, 'isthmus', 'neck of land'.				
An Ûtrathad <i>the common road</i>	[ə'NuxtRa-ət]	NL633943	247 O	OR
G ùtrathad, f, a loan from ON útreið, 'expedition', 'out-road', here with the meaning of free egress and regress to common pasture.				
An Ûtrathad <i>the common road</i>	[ə'NuxtRa-ət]	NF713036	231 O	OR
See An Ûtrathad.				
An Ûtrathad <i>the common road</i>	[ə'NuxtRa-ət]	NF714016	231 O	OR
See An Ûtrathad.				
Analepp an Ear ? of the east	[aNalepə 'Neər]	NL566847	260	OR
Alias: Analepp Ear This name has various pronunciations and also occurs in Bay Analepp and Analepp an Iar. There may be a connection with the ON 'hlaup' for a 'run of water'. The first two syllables cannot be accounted for.				
Analepp an Iar ? of the west	[aNalepə 'Niər]	NL563845	260	OR
Alias: Analepp Iar See Analepp an Ear.				
Aneir Alias: Aneir a-staigh	[ˈenir]	NL567828	260 W	OS
Local fishermen differentiate between Aneir a-muigh and Aneir a-staigh. There may be a connection with G ainnir, 'girl', possibly designating a rock formation.				
Aneir a-muigh <i>outer A.</i>	[ˌenir ə'muj]	NL569827	260 W	OR
See Aneir.				
Aneir a-staigh <i>inner A.</i>	[ˌenir ə'støj]	NL567828	260 W	OR
Alias: Aneir See Aneir.				
Aonach <i>flat-topped height</i>		NF700107	216 R	ML

1823 Aonig
See Bàgh na h-Aoineig.

Archie Rock [ˈɑːrtʃi ˌrɒk] NF725085 231 R SH
The source does not reveal whether the specific refers to an arch-shaped rock or to a person called Archie.

Ard nan Capuill [ˌɑːɹd nəˈŋɡaˈpəl] NL572849 260 R OS*
headland of the mares
1823 Airdnacaple, 1846 Airdnacapl, 1901 Mare Point

Ardgheiltinish [ˌɑːɹd ˈjelˈtɪnɪʃ] NF713045 231 R OS*
point of the headland of the Shetlander (?)
1823 Ardgheldernish

A low-lying peninsula south of the Tràigh Mhór. The second element may be a derivation of the ON word for a person from Shetland, ‘hjaltr’, m. The latter would correspond with the use of this element as a specific in the Norwegian place-names of Hjeltnes (Rygh, G11) and Hjeltefjorden (Sandnes, 1976:156). Less likely is a connection with the ON ‘geil’ used in fish-drying as the sound of /ti/ in the above name is not accounted for.

Ardmhór [ˌɑːɹd ˈvoːr] NF713039 231 S OS*
large headland
1823 Ardhealish, 1834 Ardmhor

Ardveenish [ˌɑːɹd ˈvīːnɪʃ] NF707036 231 S OS*
point of the middle headland
1823 Ardvihinish

This peninsula is located between the peninsulas of Ardmhor and Bruernish which explains the obvious choice of name. A combination of G àird, f, ‘point’, and G meadhon, a loan form Lat. medius, ‘middle’, and ON nes, n, ‘headland’.

Ardvuran [ˌɑːɹd ˈvuːrən] NF668049 231 R OS*
headland of the bent grass
1823 Ardvaran
The OS locate this name 200m further west of the NGR given above.

Arnamul [ˌɑːɹnəmʊl] NL545825 260 I OS*
eagle rock
1654 Arnislum, 1823 Arnimul, 1901 South Green Island

Alias: Green Island, An t-Eilean Uaine

Arnamul is an island but may at one time have been attached to Mingulay. The use of ON múli is inconsistent within Barra place-names. Although usually describing a high-lying headland or a mountain, places which do not fulfil this requirement, such as entirely detached islands or small islands close to larger ones, may also incorporate this element. Further investigation of the use of ON múli is essential.

Astronomer’s Cell [əsˈtrɒnəmər ˈsel] NF703068 231 S AD
1874 Cell, 1874 Astronomer’s Cell

Bac [ˈbæxk] NF653008 231 R OS
bank

G bac is a loan from ON bakki, m, ‘bank’. In G bac-mònach, m, it has the meaning of ‘peat-bank’. It is possible that the above place-name is an abbreviated form of bac-mònach (see Dwelly, 1901:57).

Bac <i>peat-bank</i> 1823 Bachd, 1901 Bacca See Bac.	[ˈbaxk]	NF653008	231 S	CR
Bac Raghnaill Mhóir <i>Big Ronald’s hollow / peat-bank</i> See Bac.	[ˌbaxk ˌR̥ɔ̃-əLˈvo:r]	NF713016	231 R	OR
Bac Scan <i>Scan’s hollow / peat-bank</i> See Bac.	[ˌbaxk ˈskʰan]	NF714015	231 R	OR
Bàgh a Tuath Shanndraigh <i>northern bay of S.</i> Alias: Bàgh Shiadair G bàgh, m, from ON vágr. See Sandray.	[ˌbaxə ˈtʰuə ˈhaundr̥ei]	NL631922	247 W	OR
Bàgh a’ Chàrnaich <i>bay of the stony ground</i> See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxən ˈkʰɑ:R̥ɲiç]	NL691975	247 W	OR
Bàgh a’ Chnuic Mhóir <i>bay of the big mountain</i> It is possible that this location is also called Am Bàgh Mór. The exact location of Am Bàgh Mór is uncertain, it is thought to be at NF711043. See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxə ˌkruɪçk ˈvo:r]	NF715042	231 W	OR
Bàgh a’ Deas <i>south bay</i> See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxə ˈd̥ɛs]	NL636935	247 W	OS
Bàgh an Dùin Bhàin <i>bay of the white fort</i> See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxən ˌd̥iːn ˈv̥ɑ:n]	NF631005	231 W	OR
Bàgh an Éisg Dhriomain <i>bay of the mullet</i> Alias: Bàgh Seònaid The second part of the specific is derived from G druim, ‘ridge’ and G fionn, ‘white’, meaning white-backed. See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxə ˌNesk ˈɾrimən]	NF716020	231 W	OR
Bàgh an t-Suidheachain <i>bay of the seat</i> See Am Bàgh.	[ˌbaxən ˈt̥uiəxən]	NF686056	231 W	OR
Bàgh Bàn <i>white bay</i>	[ˌbax ˈb̥ɑ:n]	NL650922	247 W	OS

See Am Bàgh.

Bàgh Beag [ˌb̥aɾ ˈb̥ɛk] NL655983 247 W OS*
small bay
 1823 Little Bay
 Malcolm MacAulay gives Bàgh Beag Cheann Tangabhail as an extended version of this name. See Am Bàgh.

Bàgh Beag Glaic Choinnich [ˌb̥aɾ ˌb̥ɛk ˌɡ̊l̥aiçk ˈx̥ɔ̃niç] NL672972 247 W OR
small bay of G.
 See Am Bàgh and Glaic-Choinnich.

Bàgh Chàrais [ˌb̥a ˈx̥aɾiɹɪʃ] NF763042 231 W OR
bay of the reed headland
 Alias: Hintish Bay
 See Am Bàgh. The second element contains ON kjarr, n, ‘reed’, ‘thicket’ and possibly ON nes, n, ‘headland’.

Bàgh Ghunamul [ˌb̥a ˈɣ̥uɳəmul] NL544824 260 W OR
bay of G.
 See Am Bàgh and Gunamul.

Bàgh Haussevik [ˌb̥a ˈhausəvik] NL630918 247 W OR
skull bay
 ‘Haus’, m, is the ON term for ‘skull’. In place-names it is used for round summits and may be used for small islands, mountains and settlements (Rygh, 1898:53). See Am Bàgh.

Bàgh Héigeo [ˌb̥a ˈheːg̊j̥ɔ̃] NF627003 231 W OR
bay of ?
 The specific possibly contains ON gjá, f, ‘gully’. The first part of the specific is obscure. An alternative location for this name is at NF638005. Other suggested spellings are Headhcu, Heicu and Heico. In local tradition the specific is thought to derive from the ON personal name Håkon. Although King Håkon of Norway used to frequent the Hebrides, Lind (1915) does not provide enough linguistic evidence to support this theory. Alternatively the specific may be a lenited form of G séige, ‘bent grass’. See Am Bàgh.

Bàgh Héisegeo [ˌb̥a ˈheːf̥əg̊j̥ɔ̃] NL545817 260 W OR
bay of the gully of the small bay (?)
 The long vowel /eː/ of the specific may be broken into a diphthong and result in a possible derivation from ON kjoss, ‘little bay’. See Sloc Heisegeo and Sloc Hiasiegeo.

Bàgh Hirivagh [ˌb̥a ˈhiɾiva] NF713031 231 W OS
dry bay
 See Am Bàgh and see Bayherivagh.

Bàgh Hòraid [ˌb̥a ˈhoːrat̪] NL690973 247 W OR
bay of ?
 Alias: Bàgh na Teileagraf
 Bàgh Hòraid is Brevig usage. Locals locate this name at NL696974 or at NL690973. Both location and spelling are uncertain. The meaning may originate from G òraid, ‘speech’, ‘oration’, ‘prayer’ (Dwelly, 1901:710). Ronald Black suggests a possible link with G mòraid, ‘moorings’. See Am Bàgh.

- Bàgh Huilavagh** [ˌb̥a ˈhuləvay] NF712037 231 W OS*
bay of hills
 c.1822 Uillhibha, 1823 Bahulavagh, 1874 Hulavay Bay
 A local informant associated the specific with G uille, the genitive of uileann, ‘elbow-joint’. In this syntax the name appears to be more likely of ON origin. Cox collected the name Ceann Thulabhaig in Lewis and derives it from ON Huglauik, ‘bay of hills’ (Cox, 1985: name 620). As the bay is very narrow, much like a canal, the surrounding hills dominate the scenery. Cox’s interpretation of the name appears to be applicable in the Barra context. See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh Lachlainn** [ˌb̥a ˈlaxlən] NF652030 231 W OR
bay of Lachlan
 See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh Leithinis** [ˌb̥a ˈlæːnɪʃ] NL704992 247 W OR
bay of L.
 See Am Bàgh and Leanish.
- Bàgh na Coille** [ˌb̥aynə ˈkøɫʃ] NF750024 231 W OR
bay of the vegetation
 See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh na h-Aoineig** [ˌb̥aynə ˈhʌːnɪk] NL550832 260 W OS
bay of the flat-topped height
 Alias: Night Bay
 See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh na h-Aonaich** [ˌb̥aynə ˈhʌːnɪç] NL596868 260 W ML
bay of the flat-topped height
 1823 Beirranahina, 1846 Berranahind
 See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh na Sgeir Léitheadh** [ˌb̥aynə ˈskʲerʲ ˈleːəɹ] NF633006 231 W OR
bay of the grey skerry
 See Am Bàgh. G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, ‘skerry’.
- Bàgh na Stein** [ˌb̥aynə ʃteːn] NL665982 247 W OR
bay of the rock
 See Am Bàgh. This name refers to A’ Stein as the rock on which the castle stands. Bàgh na Stein forms the inner section of Castle Bay.
- Bàgh na Teileagraf** [ˌb̥aynə ˈteləɡraf] NL690973 247 W OR
bay of the telegraph cable
 Alias: Bàgh Hòraid
 See Am Bàgh.
- Bàgh nam Feusgan** [ˌb̥aynə ˈfʲæsgən] NF711033 231 W OR
bay of the mussels
 1878 Bàgh nan Easgann
 See Am Bàgh. The 1878 OS Object Name Book entry did not find its way onto the map.

Bàgh nan Clach <i>bay of the stones</i> 1874 Stoney Bay Alias: Mol Sgurabhail, Stony Bay See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥aynə 'ŋg̊lax]	NF694084	231 W	OS*
Bàgh nan Cruach <i>bay of the peat stacks</i> This used to be the loading place for peat cut for the glass factory. See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥aynə 'ŋg̊ruax]	NF718025	231 W	OR
Bàgh nan Each <i>bay of the horses</i> See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥aynə 'næx]	NF765045	231 W	OR
Bàgh nan Greòd <i>gravel bay</i> For the generic see Am Bàgh. The specific is derived from ON grjótt, n, 'gravel'.	[.b̥aynə 'ŋg̊riɔ:d]	NL644903	247 W	OR
Bàgh nan Ròn <i>bay of the seals</i> Alias: Seal Bay, Am Bàgh See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥aynə 'Rɔ:n]	NF655040	231 W	OR
Bàgh Rubha na Tobhtaig <i>bay of R.</i> A combination of G bàgh, m, from Eng. 'bay', G rubha, m, 'promontory', and the diminutive form of G tobhta, f, a loan from ON toft, 'walls of a house'.	[.b̥a ,Runə 't'o ^h tak]	NF747044	231 W	OR
Bàgh Rubha Pheadair <i>bay of Peter's point</i> See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥a ,Ru 'fedir]	NF722035	231 W	OR
Bàgh Seònaid <i>Janet's bay</i> Alias: Bàgh an Éisg Dhriomain See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥ay 'fo:nat']	NF716020	231 W	OR
Bàgh Shiadair <i>bay of the dwelling / farm</i> Alias: Bàgh a Tuath Shanndraigh See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥a 'hiədər]	NL631922	247 W	OR
Bàgh Siar <i>west bay</i>	[.b̥a 'hiər]	NL624952	247 W	OS
Bàgh Sloc an Ìm <i>bay of the gully of butter</i> See Am Bàgh.	[.b̥ay ,sloxkə 'Ni:m]	NL564794	260 W	OR
Bàgh Thréisibhig	[.b̥a 'Refivik]	NL569797	260 W	OR

bay of T.

One informant provided the alternative spelling of Bàgh Tarnesibhig. See Arn Bàgh and Tresivick.

Baile MhicNéill [ˌb̥alʲəiçˈkr̥ɛːl] NL662985 247 S OR*
1901 -

Alias: Castlebay, Bàgh a' Chaisteil

This name was remembered by few informants as the old name of Castlebay. It is listed in Dwelly (1901:1009) as the official G name for Castlebay.

Balnabodach [ˌb̥alnəˈb̥ɔd̥ɔx] NF713015 231 S OS*
milking-place of the old men

1814 Bualenanbodach, 1823 Buailanabodach, 1828 Bolinabodach, 1874 Old Mans Fold

“MacNeil of Barra’s wife was passing trough the buaile (fold) when the women were milking. It was the custom to offer a drink to anyone who passed but for some reason she was not offered it. She cried at the top of her voice: “Bithidh fein Buaile nam Bodach!”, ‘May yourselves be the fold of the old men’, which was understood to predict for them belated marriages, and unhappy homes afterwards.” Farquhar MacRae (See Maclean manuscripts, P. 8103).

Bannaig [ˈbanik] NL610878 260 R OR
straight way

Barnaig or Banaik are variations of this name. This name is likely to be derived from the ON adj. beinn, ‘straight’, and vegr, ‘path’, ‘route’.

Bannish [ˈbæniʃ] NL550820 260 R OS
straight headland

Alias: Wedding Point, Rubha Bheanais

Also known as Bennish or Rubha Bheanais. The name is likely to originate from the ON adj. beinn, ‘straight’ and ON nes, n, ‘headland’.

Banca Fhlodaigh [ˌb̥aŋkəˈl̥ɔd̥ai] NL618929 247 U OR
bank of F.

G banc, f, gaelicized form of Eng. bank. See Flodday.

Barnacle Rock [ˈbarnəkl̥ˈrɔk] NL574851 260 R OS
1901 Limpet Rock

Donald MacNeil gives the G version, Sgeir nam Bàirnichean, for this place.

Barra [ˈb̥aRa] NF683005 231 I OS*

1549 Baray, 1654 Barra, 1695 Barray, 1764 Barra, 1845 Barray, 1848 Barra, 1854 Barra(y)

The generic is derived from ON øy, f, island. A derivation of the first element from St. Finbar appears most unlikely. It is more likely that the specific is of a descriptive nature such as the ON adj. berr, ‘naked’, ‘bare’ or the ON adj. barr, ‘rough’. There is, however, the possibility that the name Barra is pre-Celtic as is the case with names of some other Hebridean islands.

Barra Head [ˌb̥aRaˈhed] NL555792 260 R OS*

1794b Bara Head, 1823 Barra Head, 1845 Barray Head, 1846 Barra Head, 1854 -, 1865 -

The OS name Barra Head is often used synonymously for the most southern island of that chain, Berneray.

- Bay Analepp** [ˌbaɪ ˈanalep] NL564846 260 W OS
bay of A.
 1901 Anne's Bay
 The historic form of 1901 is very likely to be a misinterpretation as Sharbau, the surveyor, relied almost entirely on information based on charts. See Analepp an Ear.
- Bay Hunadu** [ˌba ˈhunadu] NL572844 260 W OS*
 1865 B. of Sonodal
 The generic is Eng. but takes front position. The meaning of the specific is obscure. It may contain the ON personal name for males 'Hundi'. The OS Object Name Book lists a possible derivation from G *Bàgh a' Chinn Duibh*, 'bay of the black head', but gives no further information. Cox lists Toma Dubha, 'dark hills', in his collection of names (see Cox, 1987:232, pt. 2) which may correspond with the above specific.
- Bay Sletta** [ˌbaɪ ˈsleːtə] NL555843 260 W OS
bay of the plain
 The specific is ON slétta, f, 'level piece of ground'.
- Bayherivagh** [ˌba ˈhiRivah] NF705029 231 S OS*
dry bay
 1814 Balhirrabha
 A tautological combination of Eng. bay, the ON adj. þurr, 'dry' and ON vágr, m, 'sheltered bay'.
- Bealach a' Mhaim** [ˌbʲæLaxə ˈvæːm] NL640985 247 R OS*
pass of the breast
 1823 Bealackamhaim, 1878 Bealach a' Mhainn
- Bealach a' Phuinnnd** [ˌbʲæLaxə ˈfuɪntʰ] NF658002 231 R OR
pass of the fold
 This primary name is related to Sruth Bealach a' Phuinnnd. G punnd, m, 'fold', is a loan from Sco. pound. According to Ian A. Fraser, a pound was used for enclosing strayed livestock, which had to have access to feed and water until collected by their owners.
- Bealach an Dà-bheinn** [ˌbʲæLaxən ˈdaː ˈvøɪn] NF704071 231 R OS
pass of the two mountains
 Alias: Eadar an Dà Bheinn
- Bealach an Dreann** [ˌbʲæLaxən ˈdriauN] NF682044 231 R ML
pass of the haste
 1823 Bealachandreann
 For the specific Dwelly (1901:358) lists the additional meanings of 'contention', 'battle', 'grief' and 'pain'.
- Bealach an Duine** [ˌbʲæLaxən ˈd̪ˠɫNʲ] NL648980 247 R OR
pass of the man
- Bealach an Sguile** [ˌbʲæLaxə ˈskʰulʲ] NL677979 247 R OR
pass of the creel

Bealach Bhréibhig <i>pass of B.</i> Alias: Am Bealach See Brevig.	[.b̥æɫax 'vr̥e:vɪk]	NL684987	247 R	OR
Bealach Carnach <i>pass full of cairns</i>	[.b̥æɫax 'kɑ:ɾ̥ɫax]	NL644917	247 R	OS
Bealach Chordale <i>pass of C.</i> 1823 Bealachordale See Cordale.	[.b̥æɫa 'xɔ:ɾ̥dəl]	NF735085	231 R	ML
Bealach Dhuggain <i>Fr. Duggan's pass</i> Rev. Dermit Duggan was a priest in Barra from 1652-1657. He regularly passed this place on his way from Craigston to the east side of Barra.	[.b̥æɫaxə 'hugai̯n]	NF685008	231 R	OR
Bealach Iain <i>Ian's pass</i>	[.b̥æɫax 'iaĩ̯n]	NF703010	231 R	OR
Bealach na Beinne Bige <i>pass of the small mountain</i>	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'b̥eɲəɣ 'bigə]	NL623965	247 R	OR
Bealach na Cruidhe <i>pass of the horse-shoe</i>	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'k'ruĩ̯ð]	NL630973	247 R	OR
Bealach na Gaoithe <i>windy pass</i> 1823 Bealachnagaoi	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'g̥ui̯ð]	NF700075	231 R	ML
Bealach na Gaoithe <i>windy pass</i>	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'g̥ui̯ð]	NF664019	231 R	OR
Bealach na Haf <i>pass of the sea</i> The Gaels use <i>Na Haf</i> , a word which is of ON origin, as a general term for the West Atlantic (see McDonald, 1958:148). ON haf, n, 'the sea'.	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'haf]	NF660047	231 R	OR
Bealach nan Càrn <i>pass of the cairns</i>	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'ŋg̥ɑ:ɾ̥ɫ̥]	NF706067	231 R	OR
Bealach nan Daoine <i>pass of the men</i>	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'n̥d̥ɑ:ɫ̥]	NL625964	247 R	OR
Bealach nan Gall <i>pass of the strangers</i> 1823 Bealachnagaull "The place is named after mainland raiders who were stopped by two boys, each the son of a widow, from Tanguisdale." Nan MacKinnon (see SA 1960/117/B13).	[.b̥æɫaxnə 'ŋg̥aul]	NL662991	247 R	ML

Bealach Port a' Bhualte <i>pass of P.</i> See Port a' Bhualte.	[.b̥æɫax .pɔʃtə 'vualtjə]	NL682978	247 R	OR
Beatson's Shoal 1874 Beatsons Shoal Alias: Bogha Bheannachan	['bi:tsons 'ʃol]	NF755014	231 U	AD
Beinn a' Charnain <i>mountain of the little cairn</i>	[.b̥eiNə 'xɑ:ɾ̥N̥an]	NF753043	231 R	OS
Beinn a' Cheathaich (?) <i>misty (?) mountain</i> Alias: Ben Orosay	[.b̥eiNə 'ʃeʰiç]	NL672976	247 R	OR
Beinn a' Ghoirtein <i>mountain of the little field</i> 1823 Beinghorstin	[.b̥eiNə 'ɣɔʃtjən]	NL638982	247 R	ML
Beinn an Lochain <i>mountain of the small loch</i>	[.b̥eiNə 'lɔxan]	NL643985	247 R	OR
Beinn Chaolais <i>hill of C.</i> 1865 -, See Caolis.	[.b̥eiN 'xɑ:ləs]	NL627972	247 R	AD
Beinn Ghunnairigh <i>mountain of Gunnar's shieling</i> 1823 Beinghunarie See Gunnairigh.	[.b̥eiN 'ɡ̥uN̥aɾ̥i]	NF681020	231 R	ML
Beinn Hirivagh <i>mountain of the dry bay</i> 1823 Beinhiravagh See Bàgh Hirivagh.	[.b̥eiN 'hiɾ̥iva]	NF699035	231 R	ML
Beinn Mhartainn <i>Martin's mountain</i> 1823 Beinvastin Alias: Beinn Sgiodair	[.b̥eiN 'va:ʃtən]	NF664021	231 R	OS*
Beinn na Cailliche <i>mountain of the old woman</i> Alias: A' Bheinn Bhreac	[.b̥eiNə 'k'aliçə]	NL634991	247 R	OR
Beinn na Cuidhe Fhalaiche <i>mountain of the hidden enclosure</i> Alias: Cuialachmore, A' Bheinn Bheag	[.b̥eiNə .kui 'aliçə]	NL623988	247 R	OR

Beinn na Faire 1901 Bein Hereva <i>mountain of the look-out</i> Sharbau's entry of Bein Hereva at this location is either an alias possibly as 'Beinn Hirivagh' relating to the proximity of Bàgh Hirivagh or it is a form of Ben Erival which has been located incorrectly. His entry of Bein na Heira which he possibly incorrectly located at the site of Ben Erival may be a historic form of the above Beinn na Faire, i.e. Beinn na h-Aire. Cf. Tom na h-Aire at Inverlochy.	[.b̥eɪnə 'fɛrə]	NF701039	231 R	OR
Beinn na Leig <i>mountain of the marsh</i> One informant suspects an OS error and suggests Beinn na Laig, 'mountain of the hollow between two knolls'.	[.b̥eɪnə 'l'e:k]	NF641001	231 R	OS
Beinn na Mòine 1901 Bein na Monach <i>peat hill</i>	[.b̥eɪnə 'mɔːnɔ̃]	NF656004	231 R	OS
Beinn na Mòna <i>peat hill</i> 1823 Beinamona	[.b̥eɪnə 'mɔːnɔ̃]	NF694063	231 R	ML
Beinn na Mòna <i>peat hill</i> 1901 Bein na Monach	[.b̥eɪnə 'mɔːnɔ̃]	NL603878	260 R	SH
Beinn na Mòna Bheag <i>small peat hill</i> 1823 Beinamonabeg	[.b̥eɪnə ,mɔːnɔ̃ 'vɛk]	NF694046	231 R	ML
Beinn nan Càrnan <i>mountain of the little cairns</i> 1823 Beinnacarnan	[.b̥eɪnə 'ŋgɑːR̥n̪an]	NF726011	231 R	ML
Beinn nan Carnan <i>mountain of the little cairns</i> 1865 Beinn a Carnan	[.b̥eɪnə 'ŋgɑːR̥n̪an]	NL683982	247 R	OS*
Beinn nan Coileach <i>mountain of the grouse / rills of water</i> G coileach, m, has the meanings of 'grouse', 'moor cock' and 'rill of water'.	[.b̥eɪnən 'køliç]	NF699039	231 R	OR
Beinn Òb a Deas <i>south mountain of the enclosed bay</i> A combination of G beinn, f, 'mountain', ON hópr, m, 'enclosed bay' and the G adj. a deas, 'south'.	[.b̥ei ,nɔːpə 'd̪ɛs]	NF701025	231 R	OR
Beinn Òb a Tuath <i>north mountain of the enclosed bay</i> 1823 Beinnahoab, 1901 Bein Obb Alias: Ben Obe	[.b̥ei ,nɔːpə 't̪uʔ]	NF702026	231 R	ML

Local informants divide the location pointed out by the OS as Ben Obe into the northern and the southern Ben Obe. Beinn Òb a Tuath and the OS Ben Obe are names for the same location. See Beinn Òb a Deas.

Beinn Sgiodair [ˌbeɪn ˈskɪdər] NF658020 231 R OR
mountain of the puddle

Alias: Beinn Mhartainn

This primary name is extracted from the secondary name Lèana Beinn Sgiodair.

Beinn Slétta [ˌbeɪn ˈslɛːtʃə] NL554833 260 R SH*
hill of the plain

1823 Beinsleita, 1901 Bein Sleita

Alias: Tom a' Mhaide

ON slétta, f, 'level piece of ground'.

Ben Bheg Eoligarry [ˌbeɪn ˌvɛk eːɔːlɪɡərɪ] NF705071 231 R OS*
small mountain of E.

1823 Beinveg

Alias: A' Bheinn Bheag

Ben Bheg Eoligarry, as entered on the OS map, has a corresponding mountain in the west, named A' Bheinn Mhór, marked as Ben Eoligarry Mór by the OS. The use of the specific in both names is inconsistent and the spelling is incorrect. See Eoligarry.

Ben Cliad [ˌbeɪn ˈkʲliatʲ] NF677043 231 R OS*
mountain of C.

1823 Beinchlade, 1901 Bein Cleach

The specific is related to ON klettr, m, 'hill'. See Cleat.

Ben Cuier [ˌbeɪn ˈkʲuɪər] NL640944 247 R OS*
mountain of C.

1823 Beincuier, 1865 B. Chuil, 1901 Bein Chuil

The specific, Cuier, is related to ON kví, f, 'enclosure'.

Ben Eoligarry Mór [ˌbeɪ ˈNɔːlɪɡərɪ ˈmoːr] NF701072 231 R OS*
large mountain of E.

1823 Beinvore, 1874 Bein Eoligary

Alias: A' Bheinn Mhór

The OS version is misspelt. See comments on A' Bheinn Bheag NF705071. See Eoligarry.

Ben Erival [ˌbeɪ ˈNeɪərɪvəl] NF691044 231 R OS*
mountain at the sandbank

1823 Benarimore, 1865 Bein Erivall

Possibly a combination of G beinn, f, 'mountain', ON eyrr, f, 'sand or gravel bank at the mouth of a river' and ON fjall, n, 'mountain'. Eysteinsson, however, lists the almost similar sounding name Oreval in his collection on Harris place-names which he derives from ON orri, m, 'grouse' and ON fjall, n, 'hill'. (See Eysteinsson, 1992:51). Sharbau's entry of Ben na Heira at this location is likely to be placed incorrectly on his plan. There is a hill called Beinn na Faire closeby.

- Ben Gunnary** [ˌbeɪn ˈɣʉnəri] NF696010 231 R OS
mountain of G.
 1901 Bein Gunerie
 See Gunnairigh.
- Ben Leribreck** [ˌbeɪ ˈje:ribrɪçk] NL664989 247 R OS*
mountain of the clay slope
 1823 Beinheribreck
 Possibly from ON leirr, m, ‘clay’, ON brekka, f, ‘slope’. Its location may be within one kilometre of this NGR.
- Ben Leribreck** [ˌbeɪ je:ribrɪçk] NL664989 247 R OR
Cheann Tangabhail [ˌʃeʉnˈtɑŋgaval]
mountain of the clay slope of K.
 See Ben Leribreck.
- Ben Leribreck Glen** [ˌbeɪ je:ribrɪçk ˈɡlɛn] NL666988 247 R OR
mountain of the clay slope of G.
 See Ben Leribreck.
- Ben na Scute** [ˌbeɪnə ˈsku:tʃ] NL629986 247 R OS*
 1823 Beinacuad, 1865 Beinn na Scoot, 1901 Bein na Scool
 A combination of G beinn, ‘mountain’ and possibly G sguit, f, ‘basket for holding wool’ (Dwelly, 1901:836.)
- Ben Obe** [ˌbeɪ ˈNɔ:p] NF702026 231 R OS*
mountain of the enclosed bay
 1865 Bein Obb
 Alias: Beinn Òb a Tuath
 Local informants divide this location name into the northern and the southern Ben Ob. Beinn Òb a Tuath and the OS Ben Obe lie at the same location. A combination of G beinn, f, ‘mountain’ and hópr, m, ‘enclosed bay’.
- Ben Orosay** [ˌbeɪ ˈNɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi] NL633971 247 R OS*
mountain of O.
 1823 Beinornsay, 1865 Beinn Oronsay
 See Orosay.
- Ben Orosay** [ˌbeɪ ˈNɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi] NL672977 247 R OS*
mountain of O.
 1823 Beinornsay
 Alias: Beinn a’ Cheathaich
 See Orosay.
- Ben Rulibreck** [ˌbeɪ ˈRuLiɾɪçk] NL624941 247 R OS*
uneven mountain
 1823 Beinruillibrick, 1901 Bein Rulibreac
 A combination of G beinn, f, ‘mountain’, the ON adj. rugl, ‘uneven’, ‘bent’ and ON brekka, f, ‘slope’.

- Ben Scurrival** [ˌbɛɪn 'skʊrɪvəl] NF696090 231 R OS*
mountain of S.
 1823 Beincurrival, 1874 Bein Scurrival
 See Scurrival.
- Ben Tangaval** [ˌbɛɪn 'tɑŋgəvəl] NL639991 247 R OS*
mountain of the promontory
 1865 Beinn Tanguall
 Alias: A' Bheinn Mhór
 A combination of G beinn, f, 'mountain', ON tangi, m, 'promontory' and ON fjall, n, 'mountain'.
- Ben Vaslain** [ˌbɛɪn 'vɑːslən] NF692043 231 R OS
mountain of V.
 See Vaslain.
- Ben Verrisey** [ˌbɛɪn 'vɪrɪʃɪj] NF681023 231 R OS*
 1823 Beinvirishig, 1878 Ben Verrisig, 1901 Bein Verasa
 The OS location of this name was incorrectly marked at NF683027. Local informants suggested the NGR mentioned above. The generic is G beinn, f, 'mountain', the second part of the name is obscure.
- Berneray** [ˌbæɹnəɹaɪ] NL556801 260 I OS*
Bjorn's island
 1549 Berneray, 1654 Bernera, 1794a Bernaray, 1794b Berneray, 1823 Bernera, 1840 Berneray, 1848 Bernera I., 1854 Bernera, 1865 -
 Borgstrøm discusses this name in Campbell, 1936:289. He suggests Bearnaraidh as G spelling and Bjarnarey as ON spelling. The specific is derived from ON björn, m, 'bear' or from the ON personal name Björn. The generic is derived from ON ey, f, 'island'.
- Beul a' Bhàigh** [ˌbʲuːlə 'v̪aːj] NF716018 231 W OR
mouth of the bay
 See Am Bàgh.
- Beul a' Bhealaich** [ˌbʲuːlə 'v̪elax] NF682009 231 R OS*
opening of the pass
 1823 Bealavealich
- Beul a' Chaolais** [ˌbʲuːlə 'xɑːlɪʃ] NF644001 231 W OR
opening of the sound
 This primary name is part of Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais. In its current location the name appears out of place, as the 'Caolas', the sound separating Barra from Vatersay, is located behind Ben Tangaval.
- Beul an Fheadain** [ˌbʲuːlən 'fjedaɪn] NF683033 231 R OR
opening of the crevice through which the wind whistles
 G feadan can have a number of different meanings such as 'canal', 'flute', 'chanter', 'rivulet', 'reed' or the one given above (see Dwelly, 1901:420).
- Beul an t-Sruth** [ˌbʲuːlən 'tʁu] NF717017 231 R OR

mouth of the current

Beul Gréin [ˌbʲiɑlˈɡr̥eːn] NL549836 260 R OR
mouth of the bottom
 A variation is Beul Greime.

Beul na Creige [ˌbʲiɑlnəˈkʲr̥eɡʲ] NF724023 231 R OR
mouth of the rock

Bight a Deas [ˌbʲøiçtəˈd̪ɛs] NL612962 247 W OR
south bay
 ‘Bight’ is related to G bideadh, the ‘bite’.

Bight a Deas Sgeir [ˌbʲøiçtəˈd̪ɛˈskʲer] NL632911 247 W OR
Noddimul [ˈnɔd̪imul]
south bay of S.
 See Noddimul in Knock Noddimul. G sgeir, f, is a loan from ON sker, n, ‘skerry’. See Bight a Deas.

Bight a’ Ghille Ruaidh [ˌbʲøiçtəˈjilʲəˈruəj] NL567852 260 W OR
bay of the red boy
 The specific of this name is a striking rock off the north coast of Mingulay. See Bight a Deas and The Red Boy.

Bight Caolas na h-Adhairc [ˌbʲøiçtˈkɑːl̪əs n̪əˈh̪øriçk] NL576851 260 W OR
bay of C.
 See Bight a Deas and Caolas na h-Adhairc.

Bird Rock [ˈb̪ɛrdˈrɔk] NL552798 260 R AD
 1865 -
 Alias: Na Cìreanan, Sgeir a’ Chìrein, Sgeir an t-Salainn

Biruaslum [ˈb̪ir̪ə-əs̪lum] NL608964 247 T OS*
Bera’s (?) island
 1654 Bereslum, 1823 Bierislam, 1846 Birislam, 1865 Bierislam, 1878 Birastil
 This tidal island holds an ancient fort. The specific may derive from the ON personal name for females, ‘Beru’ or ‘Bera’. A derivation from a personal name would in most cases require an s-genitive and fit in with the representation of sounds. The generic is derived from ON holmr, m, ‘island’.

Bishop’s Isles [ˈb̪iʃəpsˈaɪls] NL560830 260 I OR*
 1695 Bishop’s Isles, 1794b The Bishop’s Isles
 There is some confusion as to what islands are included in this term. Berneray, Mingulay and Pabbay are always included in this group, sometimes Sandray too, and on inaccurate maps sometimes even Vatersay.

Biulacraig [ˈb̪il̪əkˈr̪ekʲ] NL549830 260 R OS*
edge rock
 1823 Binlachraig, 1901 Eagle Cliff
 Alias: A’ Chreag Mhór
 This name is likely to be a combination of G bile, f, ‘edge’, ‘margin’, ‘rim’ (see Dwelly, 1901:94) and G creag, f, ‘rock’, ‘cliff’. The second element G craig should be lenited, but it isn’t. It seems to have been lenited in 1823. The letter ‘n’ in Maclean’s form will be a misinterpreted or misspelt letter ‘u’. MacBain (1911:32) lists G bil, bile, ‘edge’, ‘lip’ and derives it from Ir. bil, ‘mouth’. The Scottish G version of beul for ‘mouth’ may account for the use of ‘u’ in the spelling of the above place-name. There may be a connection with the second element of the specific of Carraig Bilibibi.

Black Islands 1874 Black Island Alias: Na h-Eileanan Dubha	['blak 'ailənds]	NF727029	231 I	OS*
Bodach Fhùaigh <i>old man of Fuiay</i> Alias: Sleeping Indian See Fuiay.	[bɔtɔx 'hu:ɪə]	NF740025	231 R	OR
Bogach <i>swamp</i> 1823 Bogach na Falla Alias: Bogach na Fala Maclean's name from 1823 Bogach na Falla, 'swamp of blood', is likely to indicate that this area was used when bleeding animals to obtain blood for making puddings.	['bɔgɔx]	NF713022	231 S	OS*
Bogach an Tàilleir <i>swamp of the tailor</i> G tàillear, m, a loan from Eng. tailor.	[bɔgɔxən 'dɑ:l'ər]	NF720024	231 W	OR
Bogach Leithinis <i>swamp of L.</i> See Leanish.	[bɔgɔx 'Læ:niʃ]	NL698993	247 W	OR
Bogach na Fala <i>swamp of the blood</i> This is a historical name of a place nowadays known as Bogach. The G specific fala is the gen. of fuil, f, 'blood'. The boggy area the place-name describes may have been used for bleeding cattle. See Bogach.	[bɔgɔxnə 'falə]	NF713022	231 W	OR
Bogh' 'ic Gille Pheadair <i>sunken rock of the son of Gille Pheadair</i> 1865 Bovich il a Vhetir, 1901 Bovick-il-a-Vhetur Alias: Peter Rock See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[bɔiçk ɡilə 'fedir]	NL706989	247 U	AD
Bogh' a' Bhàigh <i>sunken rock of the bay</i> G bogha, m, a loan from ON boði, m, 'reef'.	[bɔ 'vɑ:ɪ]	NL696984	247 U	OR
Bogh' a' Chaiptein <i>sunken rock of the captain</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[bɔ-ə 'xaptən]	NF742058	231 U	OR
Bogh' a' Chaolais Bhàin <i>sunken rock of C.</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and An Caolas Bàn.	[bɔ-ə xɑ:lɪʃ 'vɑ:n]	NL675951	247 U	OR
Bogh' a' Chléirich <i>sunken rock of the clergyman</i>	[bɔ-ə 'k'le:riç]	NL701976	247 U	AD

1865 Bo na Clerich, 1901 Bo' na Cleirich / Clerk's Rock

A minister is supposed to have been shot at this point. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' a' Churaich [ˌb̥o-ə ˈxʊɾiç] NL673947 247 U OR
sunken rock of the wicker boat
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' a' Mhill [ˌb̥o-ə ˈvɪl] NF759021 231 U OR
sunken rock of the knoll
 One of the fishing-marks for this reef is likely to be Meall Mór, located in the south-east of Hellisay. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' Àird a' Chaolais [ˌb̥o ˌɑːɾdə ˈxʌːlɪʃ] NL612986 247 U AD
sunken rock of A.
 1865 Ard Caolas (breaker)
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Aird a' Chaolais.

Bogh' an t-Suidheachain [ˌb̥oN ˈt̪ːuiəxən] NF685057 231 U OR
sunken rock of S.
 Suidheachan, the house at Vaslain, serves as a fishing mark. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Suidheachan.

Bogh' an Taigh Ghil [ˌb̥oN ˈt̪ːø ˈjɪlʲ] NF758026 231 U OR
sunken rock of the white house
 Taigh Geal is the G name for Eoligaray House. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' an Tairbh [ˌb̥oN ˈd̪̥ərɐv] NF743054 231 I AD
sunken rock of the bull
 1874 Bull's Rock
 Alias: Am Bogha Carach, Sgeir an Tairbh
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' an Tairbh [ˌb̥oN ˈd̪̥ərɐv] NF725079 231 U OR
sunken rock of the bull
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' an Turcaich [ˌb̥oN ˈd̪̥ʊɾkiç] NL698984 247 U OR
sunken rock of the turk
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' Eachainn [ˌb̥o ˈæxain] NL707985 247 U OR
Hector's sunken rock
 Alias: Am Bogha Tàmh
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogh' Eilean na Coille [ˌb̥o ˌelɛNə ˈkøLɔ̃] NF745028 231 U OR
sunken rock of E.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Eilean na Coille.

Bogh' Rubh' a' Chàrnain [ˌb̥o ˌRuə ˈxɑːɾɲan] NL607868 260 U OR
sunken rock of R.

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Rubh' a' Chàrnain.

Bogha Àrnamul [ˌb̥o ˈɑːɾ̥n̥əmul] NL542829 260 U OR
sunken rock of A.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Arnamul.

Bogha Beag Chliaid [ˌb̥o ˌb̥ɛk ˈxliatʰ] NF667053 231 U OR
small sunken rock of C.
 Alias: Am Bogha Beag
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Cleat.

Bogha Beag na Carraige [ˌb̥o ˌb̥ɛknə ˈkarekʲə] NL622979 247 U OR
small sunken rock of the fishing rock
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Beag Orosaigh [ˌb̥o ˌb̥ɛk ˈɔɾo-ɔs̪eɪ] NL641970 247 U OR
small sunken rock of O.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Orosay.

Bogha Beinn Chliaid [ˌb̥o ˌb̥eɪn ˈxliatʰ] NF751017 231 U OR
sunken rock of B.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Ben Cliad.

Bogha Beul a' Bhàigh [ˌb̥o ˌb̥iɒlə ˈvaːɾɪ] NF736017 231 U OR
sunken rock of B.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Beul a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Bheannachan [ˌb̥o ˈvænəx̪ɔ̃n] NL644956 247 U OR
sunken rock of blessings
 As this reef is a dangerous place for boats the inspiration for the choice of generic may have been taken from a sailor blessing himself in order to circumnavigate this rock safely. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Bheannachan [ˌb̥o ˈvænəx̪ɔ̃n] NF755014 231 U AD
sunken rock of blessings
 1874 Bo Beanachan
 Alias: Beatson's Shoal
 "The name on the English chart is Dixon's Rock, but that was just a corruption of the man who took it down." Neil MacNeil. The OS location of this name at NF756025 is wrong, as is Bo Bheanachan, the OS spelling. See Bogha Bheannachan (above), see Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Chavalier [ˌb̥o ˈxavaliər] NF725028 231 U OR
sunken rock of the 'Cavalier'
 The cargo boat *Cavalier* once hit this rock but did not sink. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Chigein a Deas [ˌb̥o ˈçigənə ˈd̪ɛs] NL617866 260 U OR
southern scat reef
 Alias: Bogha Chigein Mór
 Dwelly (1901: See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Chigein an Ear [ˌb̥o ˈçigənə ˈn̪eər] NL618873 260 U OR

eastern scat reef

Alias: Bogha Chigein Beag

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Chigein Beag

[.b̥o ˌçigən ˈb̥æk]

NL618873

260 U

OR

small scat reef

Alias: Bogha Chigein an Ear

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Chigein Mór

[.b̥o ˌçigən ˈmo:r]

NL617866

260 U

OR

large scat reef

Alias: Bogha Chigein a Deas

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Dròbhair

[.b̥o-ə ˈd̥r̥õ:vər]

NF743043

231 U

OR

sunken rock of the drover

An alternative location is a NF726105. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Druim Slàinte

[.b̥o ˌd̥ruim ˈsl̥ã:nd̥ə]

NF760025

231 U

OR

sunken rock of the ridge of salvation

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Dubh an Dùin

[.b̥o ˌd̥uʰə ˈd̥ũ:n]

NL541819

260 U

OR

black sunken rock of the fort

Alias: Twin Rocks, Am Bogha Dubh

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Glaic Mheallt'

[.b̥o ˌɡ̥l̥aiçk ˈv̥elt]

NF734026

231 U

OR

sunken rock of the deceptive hollow

Alias: Am Bogha Ruadh

Bogha Glaic Mheallt' is the Bruernish usage. The Northbay usage is Am Bogha Ruadh. Mheallt is the gen. case of G mealladh, 'seduction', 'deception'. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and see Glac Mheallt'.

Bogha Holisgeir

[.b̥o ˈh̥ol̥içk'er]

NL625981

247 U

OR

sunken rock of H.

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Holisgeir.

Bogha Leathainn

[.b̥oçə ˈl̥æʰən]

NL620982

247 U

AD

broad sunken rock

1865 Bo Leahan

Alias: Bogha Ruadh a-muigh

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Mhic Doonan

[.b̥oviç ˈd̥u:nan]

NL614983

247 U

AD

Doonan's son's sunken rock

1865 Bovich Dhunan

Alias: A' Chaigionnach

Ronald Black suggests Doonan to be an Irish name. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Mór Chliaid

[.b̥o ˌmo:r ˈxl̥iɑtʃ]

NF666054

231 U

OR

big sunken rock of C.

Alias: Am Bogha Mór

See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and C'leat.

Bogha na Cloiche Móire [ˌbɔnə ˌk'loɪçə 'mo:rɔ̃] NL733990 247 U AD
sunken rock of the large stone
 1874 Bo na clach more
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na Cuidhe Mhóir [ˌbɔnə ˌkui 'vo:r] NL698987 247 U OR
sunken rock of the large enclosure
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh. G cuidhe, f, a loan from ON kví, f, 'enclosure'.

Bogha na Drifter [ˌbɔnə 'driftər] NL667959 247 U OR
sunken rock of the 'Drifter'
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na h-Àirde NL610981 247 U SH
sunken rock of the headland
 1901 Bo' na Ard.

Bogha na h-Éiginn [ˌbɔnə 'he:ɡɪn] NF651031 231 U OR
sunken rock of the crisis / danger / disaster
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na h-Enterprise [ˌbɔnə 'hentərpraɪs] NL621981 247 U OR
sunken rock of the 'Enterprise'
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na h-Uamha Bige [ˌbɔnə ˌhũãv 'bɪgə] NF747038 231 U OR
sunken rock of U.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and An Uamh Bheag.

Bogha na h-Urchrach [ˌbɔnə 'huRəXRɔ̃x] NL709995 247 U OR
sunken rock of the (length of a) bow-shot or gun-shot
 The dictionary lists urchair (gen. here urchrach) with the possible translations 'sudden movement', 'shot' and 'cast' (Dwelly, 1901:998). It is likely to indicate some sort of measurement.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and see Bogha nan Gunnachan.

Bogha na Lice [ˌbɔnə ˌl'ɪçkʲə] NL619987 247 U AD
sunken rock of the flagstone
 1865 Bo na Lichte
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na Scadán [ˌbɔnə ˌska'daun] NL668960 247 U OR
sunken rock of the 'Scadán'
 The specific is the name of a boat and sounds like the Irish word for herring, scadán. It is likely to have designated an Irish boat. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha na Seòlaid [ˌbɔnə ˌseɔ:læt'] NL667964 247 U OR
sunken rock of the passage for vessels

Dwelly (1901:808) lists a number of different meanings for *G seòlaid*, *f*, such as ‘pier’, ‘haven’, ‘passage for vessels’, ‘anchorage’, ‘harbour’ and ‘fairway in the sea’. As *Bogha na Seòlaid* is located at the entrance to Castle Bay, the above mentioned translation ‘reef of the passage for vessels’ appears to be the most suitable interpretation. See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*.

Bogha na Sgeire Ghlaise [ˌbɔnə ˌskʰerə ˈɣlɹɹə] NF728023 231 U OR
sunken rock of the grey-green skerry

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. *G sgeir*, *f*, a loan from ON *sker*, *n*, ‘skerry’.

Bogha na St. Margaret [ˌbɔnə ˈsɪnt ˈmɑrgɹɹɪt] NL655983 247 U OR
sunken rock of the ‘St. Margaret’

The ‘St. Margaret’ is a ship. See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*.

Bogha nan Gunnachan [ˌbɔnə ˈŋɡʊnɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NF749026 231 U OR
sunken rock of the guns

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. *G gunna*, *m* + *f*, is a loan from MEng. *gunne*, ‘gun’. See *Bogh’ na h-Urchrach*.

Bogha nan Laogh [ˌbɔnə ˈlʊɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NL624925 247 U OR
sunken rock of the calves

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*.

Bogha nan Sgeirean Beaga [ˌbɔnə ˌskʰerɹɹɹɹɹɹ ˈbɛkɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NF743050 231 U OS*
sunken rock of the small skerries

1874 Bo Sgeiran Beg

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. *G sgeir*, *f*, a loan from ON *sker*, *n*, ‘skerry’.

Bogha nan Sgeirean Móra [ˌbɔnə ˌskʰerɹɹɹɹɹɹ ˈmoːrɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NF740050 231 U OS*
sunken rock of the big skerries

1874 Bo Sgeiran Mora

Alias: Glassgeir

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. See *Bogha nan Sgeirean Beaga*.

Bogha nan Treigeil [ˌbɔnə ˈdʁɹɹɹɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NF747037 231 U OR
sunken rock of the treacles

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*.

Bogha nan Trosq [ˌbɔnəN ˈtʰrɹɹsk] NL617913 247 U OR
sunken rock of the cod

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. *G trosq*, *m*, a loan from ON *þurskr*, *m*, ‘cod-fish’.

Bogha Néill an Tàilleir [ˌbɔ nɛːlən ˈdɑːlˈɹɹɹɹɹɹ] NL590876 260 U OR
sunken rock of Neil (son of) the tailor

Alias: Sgeir Néill an Tàilleir, Sgeirean Sloc Ghleansaich

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*. *G tàillear*, *m*, a loan from Eng. *tailor*.

Bogha Ruadh a-muigh [ˌbɔ ˌRuəɹə ˈmuj] NL620982 247 U OR
outer red sunken rock

Alias: Bogha Leathainn

See *Bogh’ a’ Bhàigh*.

Bogha Ruadh a-staigh <i>inner red sunken rock</i> Alias: Holisgeir, Sgeir Holisgeir See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,Ruəɾə 'st̥ɔj]	NL625981	247 U	OR
Bogha Rubha Bhuidhe <i>sunken rock of R.</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,Ruə 'vuiʃ]	NL571818	260 U	OR
Bogha Rubha Dubh <i>sunken rock of R.</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,Ruə 'duʰ]	NL667958	247 U	OR
Bogha Sgòr na Còrcaich <i>reef of S.</i> This name describes a fishing mark. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Sgòr na Còrcaich.	[,b̥o ,skɔrnə 'kɔrkiç]	NL743995	247 U	OR
Bogha Shnagaras <i>sunken rock of S.</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Snagaras.	[,b̥o 'Nagarəs]	NF755028	231 U	OR
Bogha Sloc an Rathaid <i>sunken rock of S.</i> A combination of G bogha, m, from ON boði, m, 'reef', G sloc, m, 'gully' and G rathad, m, a loan from MEng. roade, 'road'.	[,b̥o ,slɔxkə 'Rɑ-ət]	NL558846	260 U	OR
Bogha Sloc na h-Ighne <i>sunken rock of S.</i> See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Sloc na h-Ighne.	[,b̥o ,slɔxknə 'hi:Njə]	NF777035	231 U	OR
Bogha Taigh Bean Dhanaidh <i>sunken rock of the house of Danaidh's wife</i> The location of the house of Danaidh's wife could not be established. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,t'ɔj ,bɛn 'vani]	NF737015	231 U	OR
Bogha Taigh Dhòmhnaill na Caise <i>sunken rock of Impatient Donald's house</i> The location of Impatient Donald's house is uncertain. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,t'ɔj ,ɣɔ-əlɲə 'kaɪə]	NF742040	231 U	OR
Bogha Taigh Eòin <i>sunken rock of Jonathan's house</i> It is not possible to trace who Jonathan was and where his house was located. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.	[,b̥o ,t'ɔ e'auin]	NF760016	231 U	OR
Bogha Tana <i>shallow sunken rock</i> 1874 Bo Tanna A combination of G bogha, 'sunken rock' from ON boði and the G adj. tana, 'thin', 'shallow'.	[,b̥o 'tanɔ]	NF750070	231 U	AD
Bogha Teampaill <i>sunken rock of the temple</i>	[,b̥o ,t'fɛumpul]	NF691108	216 U	OR

This reef is possibly shaped like a temple. G teampull, m, related to Lat. templum, 'temple', 'church'. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Bogha Washington [ˌb̥o ˈwɔʃɪŋtən] NF696110 216 U OR
sunken rock of Washington
 The specific may have derived from a boat called 'Washington'. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh.

Boghannan an Rubha Phabaich [ˌb̥oanənə ˌRuə ˈfapɪç] NL617867 260 U OR
sunken rocks of R.
 This place consists of two reefs of which one is located at the NGR indicated. The second reef is marked at NL615871. See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and Rubha Phabbach.

Boghannan Dearg' a' Churachain [ˌb̥oanən ɕɛrakəˈxuɾaxən] NL748996 247 U OR
the red sunken rocks of the wicker-boat shaped rock
 Alias: Na Boghannan Dearga, Sgeirean Dearga

Boghannan na Tràigh Tuath [ˌb̥oanənə ˈd̪raj ˈt̪u̯] NL664963 247 U OR
sunken rocks of T.
 See Bogh' a' Bhàigh and An Traigh Tuath.

Bonnach Dhòmhnaill [ˌb̥oNax ˈɾɔ̃-əl] NF742027 231 R OR
Donald's bannock
 Alias: Bonnach Fhionnlaigh
 G bonnach, m, related to Sco. 'bannock', founded on Lat. panicum, 'bread'.

Bonnach Fhionnlaigh [ˌb̥oNax ˈju:ləʃ] NF742027 231 R OR
Finlay's bannock
 Alias: Bonnach Dhòmhnaill
 See Bonnach Dhòmhnaill.

Bonnet Rock [ˈbɒnɪt ˌrɒk] NF733068 231 U AD
 1874 -

Borarain [ˈbɔrarən] NL551801 260 OR
 This name is also known in the lenited version A' Mhorarain. As no further information on the nature of the feature was available, the derivation of the name remains uncertain. See Bun Bhorarain.

Borve [ˈbɔ:rv] [ˈb̥ɔ-rɔɾ] NF661012 231 S OS*
fortified, high-lying village
 1825 Baron, 1827 Buron, 1827 Burow, 1828 Burow/Borve, 1865 Borve
 The historical entries from 1825-28 are extracted from the Register of Sasines. See 1825 (375), 1827 (629), (669) and 1828 (788). ON borg, f, 'fortified place'

Borve Point [ˈbɔ:rv ˈpɔɪnt] NF644019 231 R OS*
point of B.
 1823 Ardbhuirive, 1865 Ardbhuirve
 Alias: Aird Bhuirgh
 John MacNeil uses the G name, 'Gob Aird Buirgh', for this place. See Borve.

Bothag an Tairbh <i>hut of the bull</i> Alias: Taigh an Tairbh, A' Bhlianag Ghorm G both, m, related to Eng. booth and ON búð, f, 'hut', 'dwelling'.	[.bʊ ^h akəN 'd̪ørəv]	NF725016	231 S	OR
Bothag an Tairbh <i>hut of the bull</i> See Bothag an Tairbh.	[.bʊ ^h akəN 'd̪ørəv]	NL650980	247 S	OR
Bothag Ruairidh Iain <i>Roderick (of) John's hut</i> See Bothag an Tairbh.	[.bʊ ^h ak ,Ruəri 'i:aĩN]	NL646979	247 S	OR
Bràigh Allathasdail <i>hill of A.</i> G bràigh also means 'throat' or 'upper chest'. See Allasdale.	[.bræ 'alɑ-ɑsdəl]	NF674026	231 R	OR
Bretadale <i>steep valley</i> The specific is a derivation of ON brattr, 'steep', and fits perfectly to the geographical layout of the place.	['brɛtadəl]	NL626990	247 S	OS
Brevig <i>broad bay</i> 1823 Breivig, 1826 Breveg, 1874 Breivig ON breiðr, 'broad', ON víkr, f, 'bay'.	['brɛ:vɪk]	NL690980	247 S	OS*
Brevig Bay <i>bay of B.</i> See Brevig.	[.brɛ:vɪk 'be:]	NL696985	247 W	OS
Bruach Ailein <i>Allan's bank / hillside</i>	[.bruaχ 'el'ɛN]	NF649004	231 R	OR
Bruach Allathasdail <i>bank of A.</i> 1654 Allasdel/ Alloisdel brugh See Allasdale.	[.bruaχ 'alɑ-ɑsdəl]	NF656032	231 R	OR*
Bruach Bearnasdale <i>bank of ?</i> 1823 Rurnasdale A combination of G bruach, f, 'bank', possibly the ON personal name for males Björn and ON dalr, m, 'valley'. Bearnasdale is not known as a primary name among the local population.	[.bruaχ ,be'ɑR̥nəsədəl]	NF647019	231 R	OS*
Bruach Chialla <i>bank of C.</i> See Chiall.	[.brua'çiəl̥ʂ]	NF708066	231 R	OR
Bruach Hamhsdail	[.brua'x 'hausdəl]	NL632954	247 R	OR

bank of ?.

The name designates a steep hill side. Harnhsdal is possibly derived from ON hauss, m, 'knoll', 'skull' and ON dalr, m, 'valley', meaning 'knoll valley'.

Bruach nam Bràithrean [ˈbruɑx nəm ˈbrɑːrən] NF658032 231 R OR
bank of the brothers
 Alias: Fiteag Mhór
 Here G bràithrean has the meaning 'twin rocks'.

Bruernish [ˈbruːɾ̥nɪʃ] NF726014 231 R OS*
bridge headland
 1806 Bruthirnish, 1823 Bruernish
 ON brú, f, gen. case sg. + pl. brúar, 'bridge', ON nes, n, 'headland'.

Bruernish [ˈbruːɾ̥nɪʃ] NF726014 231 S OS
bridge headland
 1806 Bruthirnish, 1823 Bruernish
 Alias: Little England

Bruernish Point [ˈbruːɾ̥nɪʃ ˈpɔɪnt] NF731008 231 R OS
point of B.
 See Bruernish.

Bruthach nam Marbh [ˈbruɑx nə ˈmarav] NF649007 231 R OS6"
hillside of the dead
 The name designates a hillside which was possibly named after the coffin-carriers who used to have a rest here. (See OS Object Name Book, 1878.)

Buaile na h-Àirde [ˈbualə nə ˈhɑːɾ̥dʲə] NF714040 231 F OR
enclosure of the hill

Bualaveg [ˈbualə ˈvæk] NF761050 231 E OS*
small enclosure
 1823 -

Bualavore [ˈbualə ˈvoːr] NF755046 231 F OS*
large enclosure
 1823 Bualavore, 1874 Buaile
 The OS Object Name Books mention the site of a shepherd's hut and several ruins of houses at this location.

Bun an t-Sruth [ˈbunən ˈdruː] NF717008 231 W OS*
foot of the current
 1874 Bun Strue

Bun Bhorarain [ˈbun ˈvɔːrarən] NL548800 260 W OR
foot of B.
 The spelling is doubtful. See Borarain.

Bun na h-Aibhne [ˈbunə ˈhainiç] NF658040 231 W OR
foot of the river

Bun na h-Aibhnich may be a more appropriate rendering of the pronunciation.

Bun na h-Aibhne <i>foot of the river</i>	[.bʊnə 'hainiç]	NL669981	247 W	OR
Bun na h-Aibhne <i>foot of the river</i>	[.bʊnə 'hainiç]	NL694977	247 W	OR
Burial Ground 1865 Cemetery	['berial graund]	NL552801	260 O	OS*
Burial Ground	['berial graund]	NL565833	260 O	OS
Burial Ground	['berial graund]	NL633944	247 O	OS
Burial Ground 1823 Burying Place	['berial graund]	NF647018	231 O	OS*
Buthagan Joy <i>Joy's small potato pits</i> Buthag is Barra G for 'potato pit'. Joy is probably the woman's name.	[.bʊh'agan 'tʃɔi]	NL652995	247 F	OR
Cabhlaigearraidh <i>herb garden</i> The generic is derived from ON gerði, n, 'enclosure', 'fenced field'. The specific tends to be interpreted as either Kali, an ON personal name, or as the ON adj. kald, 'cold' (see MacLean, 1997:21). In this case it is more likely to be derived from ON kâl, n, a 'species of nutritious herb'.	['kauliǵaRi]	NL676986	247 F	OR
Cachalaith nan Sgoilearan <i>gate of the scholars / pupils</i> G sgoilear, m, related to Lat. schola, hence Eng. school.	[.k'axalej nən 'skolarən]	NF661036	231 O	OR
Cadh' an Easbaig <i>pass of the bishop</i>	[.k'a-a 'nʲesbik]	NF681025	231 R	OR
Cadha Mór <i>big pass</i>	[.k'a-a 'mo:r]	NL665997	247 R	OS
Cadha na h-Imprich <i>pass of the flitting</i>	[.k'a-anə 'himpriç]	NL640982	247 R	OR
Cadha na h-Imprich <i>pass of the flitting</i>	[.k'a-anə 'himpriç]	NF633001	231 R	OR
Cadha na h-Imprich <i>pass of the flitting</i> Niall MacPherson tells that this location was said to be haunted. People who travelled on this route on stormy nights would occasionally call in at the house of the Cuddy, Niall MacPherson's father, and ask to be accompanied to the top of the pass.	[.k'a-anə 'himpriç]	NF711022	231 R	OR

Cadha na Muice <i>pass of the pig</i>	[k'a-anə 'mɯiçkə]	NF754048	231 R	OR
Cairn Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	['k'ærɪn]	NF652015	231 O	OS
Cairn Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	['k'ærɪn]	NF672017	231 O	OS
Cairn Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	['k'ærɪn]	NF701106	216 O	OS
Cairn Galtar <i>cairn of the boar</i> Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'. ON <i>galti</i> , m, 'male pig'. The place-name 'Galten' is in Norway common for mountain and island names.	[k'ærɪn ɡaltar]	NL640915	247 R	OS
Cairns Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	['k'ærns]	NL618869	260 O	OS
Cairns Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	['k'ærns]	NF733095	231 O	OS
Calf of Muldoanich Alias: An Laogh See Muldoanich.	[kafɔf 'mʊldɔːniç]	NL692944	247 I	OR
Caolas a' Bhoga Mara <i>sound of the sunken rock in the sea (?)</i> 1794a Flodday Sound, 1845 -	[k'ɔːləs ,voə'marə]	NF746022	231 W	OR*
Caolas a' Bhogh' Ruaidh <i>sound of the B.</i> See Am Bogha Ruadh.	[k'ɔːləsə ,vo 'ruəj]	NL620981	247 W	OR
Caolas a' Bhristidh Ràmh <i>sound of the breaking of oars</i> Alternatively the name may be translated as the 'sound where oars are broken'.	[k'ɔːləs ,vriʃtʲə 'Rɑːv]	NF733004	231 W	OR
Caolas a' Chleit <i>sound of the rock</i> G cleit, f, a loan from ON <i>klettr</i> , m, 'rock', 'rocky hill'.	[k'ɔːləsə 'xlɛʰtʃ]	NL645972	247 W	OR
Caolas a' Chleit <i>sound of the rock</i> See Caolas a' Chleit.	[k'ɔːləsə 'xlɛʰtʃ]	NL704986	247 W	OR
Caolas a' Churachain <i>sound of the wicker boat</i>	[k'ɔːləsə 'xuRaxain]	NL741997	247 W	OR

Caolas a' Mhiriceil <i>sound of M.</i> See A' Mhiriceil.	[k'ʰɹ:ləsə 'vɪrɪkəl]	NL683943	247 W	OR
Caolas an Doirlinn <i>sound of the headland</i>	[k'ʰɹ:ləsən 'd̪ɔ̃RL'ɪN]	NL664956	247 W	OR
Caolas an Eich <i>sound of the horse</i>	[k'ʰɹ:ləsə 'Neɟ]	NL657908	247 W	OR
Caolas an Eilein <i>sound of the island</i> G eilean, m, a loan from ON eyland, 'island'.	[k'ʰɹ:ləsə 'Nɛl'ɛN]	NF727030	231 W	OR
Caolas an Eilein <i>sound of the island</i> See Caolas an Eilein.	[k'ʰɹ:ləsə 'Nɛl'ɛN]	NL658907	247 W	OR
Caolas an Laoigh <i>sound of the calf</i>	[k'ʰɹ:ləsə 'Lui]	NF769055	231 W	OR
Caolas an Rubha Dhuibh <i>sound of the R.</i> See An Rubha Dubh.	[k'ʰɹ:ləsən ,Ru-ə 'ɹu ^h]	NL667959	247 W	OR
Caolas Àrnamul <i>sound of A.</i> Alias: An Caolas a Tuath See Arnamul.	[k'ʰɹ:ləs 'ɑ:ɾN̪əmʉL]	NL547826	260 W	OR
Caolas Bank <i>bank of C.</i> 1865 - See Caolis. Eng. bank, 'shallow'.	[k'ʰɹ:ləs 'bɑŋk]	NL633975	247 R	AD
Caolas Beag Shnuasamul <i>small sound of S.</i> Alias: Caolas Mheadhoin See Snuasimul.	[k'ʰɹ:ləs ,b̪ək nu'asəmʉL]	NL666954	247 W	OR
Caolas Bhioraghasdail <i>sound of B.</i> Alias: Caolas Bhiruaslum See Sgeir Bhioraghasdail.	[k'ʰɹ:ləs 'vøɾəgasdəl]	NL611964	247 W	OR
Caolas Bhiruaslum <i>sound of B.</i> Alias: Caolas Bhioraghasdail See Biruaslum.	[k'ʰɹ:ləs 'vɪɾə-əsʉm]	NL611964	247 W	OR
Caolas Bogha na Lice	[k'ʰɹ:ləs ,bo:nə 'L'ɪɟkʲə]	NL619988	247 W	OR

sound of B.

See Bogha na Lice.

Caolas Eilean a' Ghamhna [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛnə 'gaunɔ̃] NF755048 231 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean a' Ghamhna.

Caolas Eilean nan Creachann [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛnə ŋɔ̃ɾaxan] NF734030 231 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean nan Creachann.

Caolas Eilean nan Eun [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛnə 'ni:an] NL607963 247 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean nan Eun.

Caolas Eilean nan Eun Beaga [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛnə 'ni:an 'bɛkɔ̃] NF646048 231 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean nan Eun Beaga.

Caolas Eilean nan Eun Móra [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛnə 'ni:an 'mo:rɔ̃] NF647049 231 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean nan Eun Móra.

Caolas Eilein Bhig [k'ɛ:ləs ,el'ɛn 'vik] NL654920 247 W OR
sound of E.
 See An t-Eilean Beag.

Caolas Eilein Sheumais [k'ɛ:ləs 'el'ɛn 'he:mɪʃ] NF741031 231 W OR
sound of E.
 See Eilean Sheumais.

Caolas Fhùaigh [k'ɛ:ləs 'huiaʲ] NF737028 231 W OR
sound of F.
 See Fuiay.

Caolas Garbh Lingeigh [k'ɛ:ləs ɔ̃garav 'L'ingɛi] NF750034 231 W OR
sound of G.
 See Garbh Lingay.

Caolas Heilem [k'ɛ:ləs 'he:ɔ̃lɛm] NF735006 231 W OR
sound of H.
 See Heilem.

Caolas Holisgeir [k'ɛ:ləs 'hɔ̃lɪʃk'er] NL626981 247 W OR
sound of H.
 See Holisgeir.

Caolas Lamalum [k'ɛ:ləs 'lamalɛm] NF728032 231 W OR

sound of L.

See Lamalum.

Caolas Lingeigh Fhada [k'ʰɫɔs ˌl'ɪŋgei 'adʃ] NF730036 231 W OR
sound of L.
 See Lingay-Fhada.

Caolas Mheadhoin [k'ʰɫɔs 'vĩ-ɛN] NL666954 247 W OR
middle sound
 Alias: Caolas Beag Shnuasamul

Caolas Mór Shnuasamul [k'ʰɫɔs ˌmo:r Nu'asəmul] NL668953 247 W OR
big sound of S.
 Alias: Caolas Shnuasamul, Caolas a-muigh
 See Snuasimul.

Caolas na h-Adhairc [k'ʰɫɔs nə 'høriçk] NL575850 260 W OR
sound of the horn

Caolas na Sgeire [k'ʰɫɔs nə 'sk'erʃ] NF723027 231 W OR
sound of the skerry
 G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, 'skerry'.

Caolas na Sgeire Duibhe [k'ʰɫɔs nə ˌsk'erə 'duiʃ] NL667955 247 W OR
sound of the black skerry
 Alias: An Caolas a-staigh
 An alternative location for this name is at NGR NL687971. See An Sgeir Dhubh.

Caolas nan Langan [k'ʰɫɔs nə n 'lanɡan] NL670952 247 W OR
sound of ling
 Malcolm MacNeil locates this name at NL681944.

Caolas nan Learg [k'ʰɫɔs nə ˈl'ærak] NF730033 231 W OR
sound of the sloping shores
 An alternative meaning for the specific is 'rain geese' being perhaps black-throated divers.
 See McDonald, 1958:161.

Caolas Orosaigh [k'ʰɫɔs ˈɔrɔ-ɔsëi] NL639972 247 W OR
sound of O.
 See Orosay.

Caolas Orosaigh [k'ʰɫɔs ˈɔrɔ-ɔsëi] NL666974 247 W OR
sound of O.
 There are two bridges leading to Orosay at NL666973 and NL667974. They were built during the time the island was used as a base for curing herring. See Orosay.

Caolas Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh [k'ʰɫɔs ˌsk'erə 'xlai-u] NF767039 231 W ML
sound of S.
 1823 Skerachluive
 See Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh.

Caolas Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh <i>sound of S.</i> See Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh.	[k'ʌ:ləs ,sk'ərə 'xlai-u]	NF648046	231 W	OR
Caolas Sgeir Ghadhaluim <i>sound of S.</i> See Sgeir Ghadhalum.	[k'ʌ:ləs ,sk'er 'gɑ-ɑlum]	NL650939	247 W	OR
Caolas Sgeir nam Bàirnichean <i>sound of the skerry of barnacles</i> See Barnacle Rock.	[k'ʌ:ləs ,sk'ernə 'bɑ:R̥ɲiçən]	NL574852	260 W	OR
Caolas Shnagaras <i>sound of S.</i> 1874 Caolas Snagara See Snagaras.	[k'ʌ:ləs 'Nagəras]	NF753027	231 W	AD
Caolas Shnuasamul <i>sound of S.</i> Alias: An Caolas a-muigh, Caolas Mór Shnuasamul See Snuasimul.	[k'ʌ:ləs Nu'asəmul]	NL668953	247 W	OR
Caolas Shòlom <i>sound of S.</i> See Solon Beag.	[k'ʌ:ləs 'hɔ:ləm]	NL573848	260 W	OR
Caolas Uibhisteach <i>sound of Uist</i> Alias: Sound of Barra Depending on the perspective this sound changes its name from Sound of Barra for Uist people to Caolas Uibhisteach, 'sound of Uist', for Barra residents.	[k'ʌ:ləs 'u:ɪftʰəx]	NF752099	231 W	OS
Caolis <i>sound</i> 1794a Kilis, 1794b Kyles, 1805 Kyles, 1823 Caolis, 1828 Kylis	[k'ʌ:ləs]	NL631972	247 S	OS*
Caragrìch Island <i>island of the brindled fishing rock</i> 1823 Ellencharagrìch, 1901 Eilean Carraig Locals call this place the G version of the name, Eilean Charraig Riabhach. Presumably from G carraig, 'fishing rock' and G riabhach, 'brindled', 'streaked'.	[k'aragri 'ailənd]	NL658962	247 I	OS*
Caragrìch Point 1823 Caragrìch See Caragrìch Island.	[k'aragri 'pɔɪnt]	NL661960	247 R	OS*
Carasdan <i>reed + ?</i> Alias: Na Seisge See Carasdan.	[k'arasdən]	NL567818	260 V	OR

Carasdan <i>reed + ?</i> Alias: Carasdan bho Thuath The first element of this name corresponds to ON <i>kjarr</i> , <i>n</i> , 'reed' or 'thicket'. The second part can not be satisfactorily explained. Another name for this area is <i>Na Seisge</i> , <i>G</i> pl. of <i>seasg</i> , 'reeds'.	[ˈkarasd̪ən]	NL573842	260 V	OR
Carasdan bho Thuath <i>reed + ? of the north</i> 1901 Carraston North Alias: Carasdan This name is likely to correspond to Carasdan in south Mingulay and may be regarded as its northern equivalent. See Carasdan.	[ˈkarasd̪ən vɔ ˈhuʃ]	NL573842	260 R	OR
Càrn a' Ghille <i>cairn of the boy</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ə ˈjil̪ʃ]	NF662026	231 O	OR
Càrn na h-Ighne <i>cairn of the girl</i> A long time ago a young girl died at this place.	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ə ˈhiːn̪jə]	NF683001	231 O	OR
Càrn Rubh' MhicFhearchair <i>cairn of R.</i> See Rubh' MhicFhearchair.	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ ˌRuɪçk ˈɛraxər]	NF749023	231 O	OR
Carnach <i>stony place</i> Alias: A' Bheinn Bhiorach	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ʃx]	NL646914	247 R	OS
Carnach <i>stony place</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ʃx]	NF765047	231 R	OS
Càrnán <i>little cairn</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ən]	NF726010	231 O	OR
Càrnán <i>little cairn</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ən]	NF727012	231 O	OR
Càrnán <i>little cairn</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ən]	NF730016	231 O	OR
Càrnán <i>little cairn</i> 1823 Beinacharn, 1865 Beinichornn	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ən]	NL553828	260 R	OS*
Carnoch Cottage <i>cottage of the stony ground</i>	[ˌkʰɑːɾ̪n̪ɔx ˌkɔtɪɕ]	NF658028	231 S	OS6"
Carraig a' Bhodaich <i>fishing rock of the old man</i>	[ˌkʰaɾɪkə ˈvɔɕɪɕ]	NF714018	231 R	OR

Carraig a' Bhodaigein <i>cod-fish fishing rock</i> Alias: Carraig an Ring	[k'arikə 'vɔtigən]	NL656975	247 R	OR
Carraig a' Chait <i>fishing rock of the cat</i>	[k'arikə 'xɑ ^h ʃ]	NF650007	231 R	OR
Carraig a' Ghobha Bhig <i>fishing rock of the small blacksmith</i>	[k'arikə ˌɡoə 'vik]	NF706033	231 R	OR
Carraig an Dóbhraim <i>fishing rock of the otter</i>	[k'arikə 'd̪ō:Ran]	NF653030	231 R	OR
Carraig an Ring <i>fishing rock of the ring</i> Alias: Carraig a' Bhodaigein The specific ring is of Eng. origin.	[k'arikə 'Rɪŋ]	NL656975	247 R	OR
Carraig an Rodain <i>fishing rock of the rat</i> G rodan or radan, m, a loan from MEng. raton, 'rat'.	[k'arikə 'Rɔdan]	NF724025	231 R	OR
Carraig an Rodain <i>fishing rock of the rat</i> See Carraig an Rodain.	[k'arikə 'Rɔdan]	NL702987	247 R	OR
Carraig an t-Sagairt <i>fishing rock of the priest</i>	[k'arikə 't'agəʃt]	NL654974	247 R	OR
Carraig an t-Sreap <i>fishing rock of the climb</i>	[k'arikən 't'ræ ^h p]	NF718014	231 R	OR
Carraig an t-Sruth <i>fishing rock of the current</i>	[k'arikən 'd̪ru ^h]	NL623978	247 R	OR
Carraig an Tàilleir <i>fishing rock of the tailor</i> G tàilllear, m, a loan from Eng. tailor.	[k'arikə 'd̪ɑ:l'ər]	NL703986	247 R	OR
Carraig Bheag Rob <i>Rob's small fishing rock</i>	[k'arik ˌvæk 'Rɔb]	NF712019	231 R	OR
Carraig Bilibibi Alias: Creag Bilibibish An alternative version is Creag Bilibibish. This place is known for a hole in the rock through which the water shoots with pressure into the air like a geysir. The second element of the name is obscure. However, Ian A. Fraser collected 'Bratabilidh', a name for a chasm, in Ness, Lewis (see Coates, 1990:88). There may be a connection with the first element of Biulacraig.	[k'arik ˌbili'bi:bi]	NL569820	260 R	OR

Carraig Chaluim Bhig <i>Little Malcolm's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik ˌxaləm 'vik]	NL655980	247 R	OR
Carraig Caolas Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh <i>fishing rock of C.</i> See Caolas Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh.	[k'aRik ˌkʌ:ləs ˌsk'erə 'xlai-u]	NF650046	231 R	OR
Carraig Choinnich <i>Kenneth's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik 'xɔːniç]	NL656979	247 R	OR
Carraig Dhóbhraín <i>fishing rock of the otter</i>	[k'aRik 'ɔːRan]	NF653046	231 R	OR
Carraig Dhùghaill <i>Dougall's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik 'ɣu-əl]	NL614968	247 R	OR
Carraig Fhionnlaigh <i>Finlay's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik 'ju:lɔː]	NF726030	231 R	OR
Carraig Fhlodaigh <i>fishing rock of F.</i> Alias: Carraige Fhlodaigh See Flodday.	[k'aRik 'lɔːdɔː]	NL622936	247 R	OR
Carraig Guail <i>fishing rock of coal</i>	[k'aRik 'ɡuəl]	NF717034	231 R	OR
Carraig Holisgeir <i>fishing rock of H.</i> See Holisgeir.	[k'aRik 'hɔːlɪfk'er]	NL624983	247 R	OR
Carraig Iain <i>John's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik 'iːaɪn]	NL645999	247 R	OR
Carraig Iain 'ic Eòin <i>John (son of) Jonathan's fishing rock</i>	[k'aRik 'iːaɪniç e'auin]	NF699095	231 R	OR
Carraig na Cille <i>fishing rock of the church</i> G cill, f, a loan from Lat. cella, 'cell', 'chapel'.	[k'aRiknə 'k'ilɔː]	NL665955	247 R	OR
Carraig na Cloiche Móire <i>fishing rock of the large stone</i> The boulder was a popular place for rock fishing. It also served as a landmark for the long line fishing in the bay.	[k'aRiknə ˌk'lɔːiçə 'vo:rɔː]	NL650974	247 R	OR
Carraig na Cuidhe Bige <i>fishing rock of the C.</i> G cuidhe, f, a loan from ON kví, f, 'enclosure'.	[k'aRiknə ˌkuiə 'bɪgɔː]	NL652974	247 R	OR

Carraig na h-Easgainn <i>fishing rock of the eel</i>	[k'aRiknə 'hesɡiN]	NL656979	247 R	OR
Carraig na Lice Sleamhainn <i>fishing rock of L.</i>	[k'aRiknə ,L'icʰə 'fləuiN]	NF719011	231 R	OR
Carraig na Sgùdag <i>fishing rock of the dirty water (?)</i>	[k'aRiknə 'sku:tak]	NF717016	231 R	OR
Carraig na Sròine <i>fishing rock of the promontory</i>	[k'aRiknə 'strɔ:nʲə]	NL653974	247 R	OR
Carraig na Staidhre <i>fishing rock of the stair</i> This is a low-lying fishing rock.	[k'aRiknə 'støirʃ]	NF718013	231 R	OR
Carraig nam Bodach <i>fishing rock of the old men</i>	[k'aRiknəm 'bɔdɔx]	NF717015	231 R	OR
Carraig nam Borghach <i>fishing rock of the people from Borve</i> See Borve.	[k'aRiknə 'bɔ-Rɔɣɔx]	NL638977	247 R	OR
Carraig nan Carbhanach <i>fishing rock of the breams</i>	[k'aRiknən 'kaRavanɔx]	NL698988	247 R	OR
Carraig nan Carbhanach <i>fishing rock of the breams</i>	[k'aRiknən 'kaRavanɔx]	NL697988	247 R	OR
Carraig nan Coineanach <i>fishing rock of the rabbits</i> G coinean, m, a loan from MEng. cunin, 'rabbit', 'coney'.	[k'aRiknə 'ŋɡɔnʲanɔx]	NF721039	231 R	OR
Carraig nan Gamhna <i>fishing rock of the stirks</i>	[k'aRiknə 'ŋɡauNɔ]	NF722032	231 R	OR
Carraig Sloc nan Coineanach <i>fishing rock of the gully of rabbits</i> G coinean, m, a loan from MEng. cunin, 'rabbit', 'coney'.	[k'aRik ,sloxknə 'k'ɔnʲanɔx]	NF677052	231 R	OR
Carraig Sloc na Mòna <i>fishing rock of S.</i> See Sloc na Mòna.	[k'aRik ,sloxknə 'mɔ:Nɔ]	NL633936	247 R	OR
Carraig Sloc nan Calman <i>fishing rock of S.</i> See Sloc nan Calman.	[k'aRik ,sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL628936	247 R	OR

- Carraig Thréisibhig** [k'arik 're:ʃivik] NL572801 260 R OR
fishing rock of T.
 A similar sounding name is located on the isle of Vatersay (NL624957). See Tresivick.
- Carraig Thrisebhig** [k'arik 'rifəvik] NL624957 247 R OR
fishing rock of T.
 The name Trisevick reoccurs in the variated version Tresivick on Berneray (NL572801). See Tresivick.
- Carrish** ['karɪʃ] NF765039 231 R OS*
reed peninsula
 1874 Charish
 The derivation is uncertain. The name may contain the ON element kjarr, n, 'reed' and ON nes, 'peninsula'. Its elements may have undergone assimilation.
- Castle Bay** ['kaslbe:] NL660976 247 W OS*
 1854 Castle Bay, 1865 -
 Alias: Kisimul Bay
 There is some confusion over the right terminology for this place. Initially it was called Kisimul Bay but later on became Castle Bay. It is possible that the Admiralty in their search for 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' in 1746 called this place Watersea Bay and Watersay Bay but it is not entirely certain as there is Vatersay Bay closeby located between the north-eastern extremity and the south-eastern extremity of Vatersay. (See section 8.2). For references to Watersea Bay and Watersay Bay see Campbell of Mamore Papers, National Library of Scotland, MS 3733, pp. 410, 411, 416. This information was given to me by Ruairidh Halford-MacLeod to whom I am grateful.
- Castlebay** ['kaslbe:] NL662985 247 S OS*
 1833 -
 Alias: Baile MhicNéill, Bàgh a' Chaisteil
 See Castle Bay.
- Cat Rock** ['ka^ht 'rɒk] NF745070 231 I AD
 1874 -
- Catarsaigh** ['k'a^htəsəi] NL544822 260 R OR
peninsula of the cat
 This primary name is likely to designate the peninsula with Dùn Mingulay in its centre. The name may derive from ON kattr, m, 'cat' and ON ey, f, 'island', 'peninsula'.
- Caul** ['kaul] NF725020 231 O OR
fish trap
 From Sco. caul, 'weir'.
- Caul** ['kaul] NF710032 231 O OR
fish trap
 From Sco. caul, 'weir'.
- Cave** ['ke:v] NL548837 260 R OS
- Cave** ['ke:v] NL606895 260 R OS

Ceann a' Mhinisteir <i>point of the minister</i> A minister's head allegedly was washed ashore at this place. He was recognised by the collar which he still wore around his neck. G ministear, m, a loan from Lat. minister, 'servant', here 'minister'.	[k'ɛʊNə 'vɪnɪʃtər]	NL639977	247 R	OR
Ceann Balt <i>point of fringe of grass</i> Dwelly lists balt, m, for 'border' or 'belt' (Dwelly, 1901:64).	[k'ɛʊN 'balt]	NL555796	260 R	OR
Ceann Crotach <i>humped point</i>	[k'ɛʊN 'krɒtɔx]	NF650014	231 R	OR
Ceann na Feans <i>point of the fence</i> The specific is a loan from English.	[k'ɛʊNə 'fens]	NL644977	247 R	OR
Ceann na Tràigh <i>top of the beach</i>	[k'ɛʊNə 't'raɪj]	NF674049	231 R	OR
Ceann nan Leac <i>point of the flagstones</i>	[k'ɛʊNən 'L'æxk]	NF659008	231 R	OR
Ceann nan Leac <i>point of the flagstones</i>	[k'ɛʊNən 'L'æxk]	NF647008	231 R	OS
Ceann Sglèat <i>slate point</i> Sglèat, m, a loan from MEng. sclat, 'slate'.	[k'ɛʊN 'sk'liat]	NF736025	231 R	OR
Ceap a' Pholasmain <i>cap of the policeman</i> The specific is the gaelicized form of Eng. 'policeman'.	[k'e ^h pə 'folismæn]	NL649988	247 R	OR
Centre Sand Alias: An Tràigh Bheag This place-name corresponds to <i>West Sand</i> and <i>North Sand</i> .		NL634937	247 R	SH
Ceum na Gualainn <i>path of the shoulder</i>	[k'e:mnə 'gualɪn]	NL648981	247 O	OR
Chambered Cairn Sco. cairn, 'stone mound'.	[tʃembərd 'ke:rn]	NF676012	231 A	OS
Chapel	[tʃapl]	NF649017	231 A	OS
Chiall 1825 Keil, 1827 Kiel, 1823 Kiall The meaning is uncertain.	[k'ial]	NF708067	231 S	OS*

- Chlogall** NL650936 247 I SH
1901-
Both meaning and pronunciation are uncertain. The last two letters of this name may have been misinterpreted from an original name 'Clogaid', G, 'helmet', 'cone', 'pyramid' or 'headpiece of a stack of corn'. This would correspond with the nearby skerries of Sgeir a' Chlogaid, 'skerry of the headpiece' which may be a misinterpretation of the 1901 entry Sgeir a Togall, 'skerry of the making of sheaves of corn'.
- Cill' Anndrais** [k'IL'auNdræʃ] NL664954 247 A OR
chapel of Andrew
Alias: Cille Bhrianain
A reliable informant located Cill' Anndrais on Uinessan. The OS map shows the antiquity Cille Bhrianain at the same location. G cill, f, a loan from Lat. cella, 'chapel'.
- Cille Bharra Remains** NF704075 231 A OS*
1823 Kilbarr, 1874 Kilbar ruin
See Kilbar.
- Cille Bhrianain** [k'ILə 'vriaNan] NL664954 247 A OS
St. Brendan's chapel
Alias: Cill' Anndrais
See Cill' Anndrais.
- Cille Bhrìde** [k'ILə 'vri:də] 652918 247 A OS*
St. Bride's chapel
"The name is applied to the site of an ancient chapel and graveyard. The graveyard is now disused and near to the shepherd's house. No information can be gained as to the date of its erection or when it became a ruin. The chapel was dedicated to St. Bridget and is said to have stood in the middle of the graveyard and of which now no traces remain." OS Object Name Book
- Chimney** ['tʃimni] NF708031 231 O SH*
This chimney was part of the glass factory which used to be located just behind Northbay church in Bayherivagh (Northbay). It must have been visible from a distance and served as orientation mark.
- Ciste na Clithe** [kiʃtʲənə 'k'Liʃ] NF686054 231 O OR
pass of the cliff
Ciste na Clithe is a path which runs along the entire coastline between Cleat and Suidheachan. It used to be a shortcut for people travelling between Cleat and Eoligaray. Locally the name is occasionally translated as 'coffin of the cliff', and is associated with the coffin carriers who when transporting bodies to the Kilbar graveyard, avoided 4 miles of detour by taking this way as opposed to the route via Northbay. G cist, f, is a loan from Lat. cista, 'chest', 'coffin'. However, in an onomastic context a derivation from ON kista, f, 'pass', 'narrowing' is more appropriate. (See Cox, 1987, II:63 and see Rygh, *Norske Gaardnavne*, V:335.)

Clach a' Bhealaich <i>stone of the pass</i>	[k'laχə 'væɫɔχ]	NF664041	231 R	OR
Clach a' Bhealaich <i>stone of the pass</i>	[k'laχə 'væɫɔχ]	NF679040	231 R	OR
Clach a' Ghiomaich <i>stone of the lobster</i>	[k'laχə 'ɣimiç]	NL652974	247 R	OR
Clach an t-Sruth <i>stone of the current</i>	[k'laχən 't'ru]	NL657980	247 R	OR
Clach an Tairbh <i>stone of the bull</i>	[k'laχən 'd̪ørəv]	NL645977	247 R	OR
Clach an Tollain <i>stone of the small hole</i>	[k'laχən 'tɔlan]	NL681990	247 R	OR
Clach Ceum Suidhe na Mòna <i>stone of the path of the peat seat</i>	[k'laχ ,k'e:m ,suiənə 'mɔ:nəʔ]	NL648986	247 R	OR
Clach Chrosgalaid <i>stone + ?</i> An alternative name is Creag Chrosgalaid. The second element possibly indicates some kind of crossing.	[k'laχ 'Rɔsgalaɪf]	NL635999	247 R	OR
Clach Eagach <i>serrated stone</i>	[k'laχ 'eəgax]	NF758047	231 R	OS6"
Clach Mhór Fhionnlaigh <i>Finlay's big stone</i>	[k'laχ ,vo:r 'ju:ləɪ]	NL653985	247 R	OR
Clach Mhór Ghrianain <i>big stone of G.</i> See Grean.	[k'laχ 'vo:r 'ɡriənən]	NF681017	231 R	OR
Clach Mhór Lèan' an Eich <i>big stone of L.</i> See Lèan' an Eich.	[k'laχ 'vo:r ,L'ienə 'Neç]	NL662959	247 R	OR
Clach Mhór nan Gleannan <i>big rock of the little valleys</i> "This is a large ice-carried boulder on the eastern shoulder of Ben Erival. It is about 30 feet long, 20 wide and 18 feet high." OS Object Name Book. Legend has it that once the stone rolls downhill, Barra will be doomed.	[k'laχ ,vo:rnən 'ɡleNən]	NF702047	231 R	OS
Clach Mhór nan Liughannan <i>big stone of the lythe</i>	[k'laχ ,vo:rnə 'liuaNən]	NL638977	247 R	OR

Clach na Farspaig <i>stone of the black backed seagull</i> G farspag, f, a loan from ON arspag, ‘greater black-backed seagull’.	[kˈlɑxnə ˈfaʃbik]	NF732008	231 R	OR
Clach na Sgotha <i>stone of the boat</i>	[kˈlɑxnə ˈskoː]	NF654023	231 R	OR
Clach nan Càrnach <i>stone of the stony fields</i>	[kˈlɑxnə ˈkːɑːR̥n̥ɔ̃x]	NF655029	231 R	OR
Clach Sgiord <i>stone of the squirt</i> Locals used to split the fish on top of this rock and spread it out to dry.	[kˈlɑx ˈskjuːʃt]	NL656978	247 R	OR
Clach Ùrnaigh <i>stone of the prayer</i>	[kˈlɑx ˈuːR̥ni]	NL678993	247 R	OR
Clach Urth <i>stone of the rocky slope</i> A combination of G clach, ‘stone’, and ON urð, f, ‘rocky slope’.	[kˈlɑx ˈurð]	NF764046	231 R	OR
Clachan Corrach <i>steep rocky place</i>	[kˈlɑxən ˈkːɔR̥ɔ̃x]	NL636997	247 R	OR
Clachan Garbh <i>rough stony place</i>	[kˈlɑxən ˈg̊a-rav]	NL656977	247 R	OR
Clachan Pharry <i>Parry’s stones</i> During the clearances a number of locals were forced to enter a ship leaving for Canada. The factor of the MacNeil, Mr. Parry, put down slabs to ease access to the boat.	[kˈlɑxən ˈfaRi]	NF712066	231 R	OR
Cladach a’ Mhaoraich <i>shellfish coast</i> Joseph Sinclair states that this name extends to the mainland of Mingulay.	[kˈladaxə ˈvʌːriç]	NL548829	260 R	OR
Cladach Sgiobasdail <i>coast of S.</i> See Skipisdale.	[kˈladax ˈskipisdəl]	NL560816	260 R	OR
Cladh Bhrianain <i>St. Brendan’s graveyard</i>	[kˈlɔɣ ˈvRiənən]	NF648017	231 O	OR
Cleat <i>rocky eminence</i> 1823 Cliade G cleit, f, a loan from ON klettr, m, ‘rock’, ‘cliff’.	[ˈkˈliatʃ]	NF667045	231 S	OS*
Cleit a’ Chaolais <i>rocky eminence of the sound</i> Alias: A’ Chleit	[kˈlˈeʰtʃə ˈxʌːlɪʃ]	NL644972	247 R	OR

See Cleat.

Cleit an Sgairbh [k'l'e^hʃəN 'skø-røv] NL562793 260 R OR
rocky eminence of the cormorant
 See Cleat.

Cleit Bhiruaslum [k'l'e^hʃ 'viRə-əslum] NL610966 247 R OR
rocky eminence of B.
 See Cleat and Bhiruaslum.

Cletta [k'l'eta] NL647900 247 I OS*
rocky eminence
 1823 Cletta
 See Cleat.

Cluain [k'luain] NL608878 260 R SH
pasture / meadow

Cnap a' Choilich [k'rā^hpə 'xøliç] NF650013 231 R OR
little hill of the grouse
 G cnap, m, a loan from ON knappr, m, 'knob', 'lump'.

Cnoc a' Bhruthaich [k'rṡ^hxkə 'vRu:ɪç] NF668041 231 R OR
hill of the peat bank

Cnoc a' Chàrnaich [k'rṡ^hxk ə xɑR^hniç] NF659028 231 R OR
hill of the stony ground
 This name corresponds with Carnoch Cottage which probably was named after this hill.

Cnoc a' Chiobair [k'rṡ^hxkə 'çi:pər] NF705021 231 R OR
hill of the shepherd
 Jonathan MacNeil (see bibliography, tape section) locates this name at NF711021. G ciobair, m, a loan from Eng. 'keeper' in the meaning of 'shepherd'.

Cnoc a' Chonaisg [k'rṡ^hxkə 'xɔNiʃ] NF710018 231 R OR
gorse hill

Cnoc a' Chonaisg [k'rṡ^hxkə 'xɔNiʃ] NL701994 247 R OR
gorse hill

Cnoc a' Chroinn [k'rṡ^hxkə 'xRøiN] NF709069 231 R OR
hill of the plough

Cnoc a' Chrochaire [k'rṡ^hxkə 'xrøxerə] NF720028 231 R OR
hill of the hangman
 G crochaire, 'hangman', has the additional meaning of 'villain', 'somebody who deserves to be hanged'.

Cnoc a' Gheòidh [k'rṡ^hxkə 'jiøɾ] NI673988 247 R OR*
goose hill
 1823 Knockagheoi

Cnoc Àirigh Eòin <i>hill of Jonathan's shieling</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk,ɑ:ɹi e'auɪN]	NF719026	231 R	OR
Cnoc an Fhithich <i>hill of the raven</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xkə 'ni-iç]	NF658046	231 R	OS
Cnoc an Roinich <i>fern hill</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xkə 'RɔNiç]	NF713018	231 R	OR
Cnoc an Stidheair <i>hill of the ?</i> A combination of G cnoc, m, 'knoll' and an element of unknown meaning.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xkə 'ʃti:ər]	NF669009	231 R	OR
Cnoc an Tairbh <i>hill of the bull</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xkə 'd̥ɔrəv]	NL651983	247 R	OR
Cnoc Chiall <i>hill of C.</i> 1823 Knockhiall See Chiall.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'k'iəl]	NF706066	231 R	OS*
Cnoc Eilean na Cuiseig <i>hill of the E.</i> Jonathan MacNeil and Mary Liz MacKinnon locate this place at NF711023. See Eilean na Cuiseig.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk ,el'ɛNə 'kufək]	NF714022	231 R	OR
Cnoc Fhraoich <i>heather hill</i> In conversation the English form of this name is occasionally used.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'rʌiç]	NL653994	247 S	OR
Cnoc Fhraoich Beag <i>small heather hill</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk ,rʌiç 'b̥ɛk]	NL654992	247 R	OR
Cnoc Gadhalum <i>hill + ?</i> 1813 Knockghathalam The specific is very likely to be of ON origin.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'g̥ɑ-ɑLəm]	NL673986	247 S	CR
Cnoc Ghobhar <i>goats' hill</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'g̥o-ər]	NL658983	247 R	OR
Cnoc Héigeo <i>hill of ?</i> The specific may be related to G séige, 'bent grass'. See Bàgh Héigeo.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'he:ɡjɔ̃]	NF636003	231 R	OR
Cnoc Mór Dhrolum <i>big hill of D.</i> See Drolum.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'mo:r 'ɣrɔLum]	NF728019	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Brataich	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'brat̪iç]	NF716033	231 R	OR

hill of the flag

A flag was raised on this hill to announce the arrival of herring-shoals. Those among the temporary curers who lived on the west side of Barra only had to make their way to Beul an Fheadain from which the flag was visible to find out whether their work was required. If it was, the flag would be raised. This simple measure prevented west coast people from walking all the way to Ardveenish in vain.

Cnoc na Féille <i>hill of the market</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'fe:jə]	NF688030	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Féille <i>hill of the market</i> Alias: An Aird Ghlas	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'fe:jə]	NL666983	247 R	OR
Cnoc na Gaoithe <i>wind hill</i> The OS placed Ben Gunnary at this location.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ɡuið]	NF695011	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Horgh <i>hill of H.</i> See Horough.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'hɔrəɣ]	NL659981	247 R	OR
Cnoc na Leapa <i>hill of the bed</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'l'æ ^h pi]	NF667033	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Mòna <i>peat hill</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'mɔ:nɔ̃]	NF709030	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Mòna <i>peat hill</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'mɔ:nɔ̃]	NF681035	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Mòna <i>peat hill</i> c.1818 Knocnamona	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'mɔ:nɔ̃]	NF681035	231 S	CR
Cnoc na Sgratha <i>hill of the turf</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'sk'ra:]	NF720023	231 R	OR
Cnoc na Sgratha <i>hill of the turf</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'sk'ra:]	NL670980	247 R	OR
Cnoc na Sléibhe <i>hill of the moor</i> Further meanings of G sliabh are 'mountain of first magnitude' and 'mountain grass'.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ʃle:ð]	NF719021	231 R	OR
Cnoc nan Cam-alltan <i>hill of C.</i> See Na Cam-alltan.	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ŋɡam ˌaũltan]	NL692992	247 R	OR
Cnoc nan Caorach <i>hill of the sheep</i>	[k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ŋɡʌ:rɔ̃x]	NF725019	231 R	ML

1823 Knocknacorach
Alias: Upper Bruernish

Cnoc nan Curran [k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ŋɡʊrən] NF704081 231 R OR
hill of the carrots

Cnoc nan Laogh [k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'lʊi] NL653998 247 R OS
hill of the calves

Cnoc nan Luch [k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'lʊx] NL686987 247 R OR
hill of the mice

Cnoc nan Steàrnán [k'r̥ɔ̃xknən 'ʃtjæ:ɾ̥nən] NF712012 231 R OR
hill of the terns
NF707016 is a possible alternative location.

Cnoc nan Stiùbhartach [k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'ʃtju:ʃtiç] NL672985 247 R OR
hill of the Stewarts

Cnoc nan Uan [k'r̥ɔ̃xknə 'nuən] NL653987 247 R OS
hill of the lambs

Cnoc Tuath [k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'tua] NL598877 260 R SH
north hill

Cnoc Thormaid [k'r̥ɔ̃xk 'ɔ̃ramat'] NF711026 231 R OR
Norman's hill

Cnocan Dubha [k'r̥ɔ̃xkən 'd̥uə] NF678028 231 R OR
black hills

Cnocan Corrach [k'r̥ɔ̃xkən 'kɔ̃rax] NF704045 231 R OR
rough hills

Coarg NF656022 231 R SH
There is hardly any information on this name. It occurs on Sharbau's estate plan and is unknown among local inhabitants.

Coastguard Lookout ['kostgard 'lʊkaut] NL701988 247 S OS

Coille Chrìochan [k'ø̃l̥ɔ̃ 'xɾ̥iɔ̃xən] NL688988 247 V OR
boundary forest

Coire Clann Néill [k'ø̃rə 'k'laun 'n̥e:l] NF681052 231 R OR
Clan Neil's hollow
Alias: Coireachan 'ic Néill

Coire Corraich [k'ø̃rə 'kɔ̃riç] NL639998 247 R OR
angry (?) hollow

Coireachan 'ic Néill [k'ø̃ɾiçəniç 'kr̥e:l] NF681052 231 R OR

MacNeil's kettle stand

Alias: Coire Clann Néill

Four or five large stones forming a circle are said to have been the hearth for the MacNeil of Barra. The size of the kettle to fit on these stones is a metaphor for the grand lifestyle of the MacNeil of Barra.

Colla [k'ɔLɔ̃] NF743028 231 R OS
mound

Alias: Eilean na Coille

ON kōllr, m, 'round top'.

Colla [k'ɔLɔ̃] NF765041 231 T OS
mound
 See Colla.

Comharradh a' Phuirt [kõhõRɔ̃ 'fu:ʃt] NF729029 231 O OR
mark of the harbour
 G port, m, a loan from Lat. portus, 'harbour', 'port'.

Comharradh nan Lèabag [kõhõRɔ̃ nə 'L'ɛbæg] NF762034 231 O OR
mark of the flounders

Cora-Bheimn [k'ɔrə 'vĩN] NF683024 231 R OS*
pointed hill
 1823 Coravein

Cordale [k'ɔrdəl] NF655000 231 S ML*
 ? + *valley*
 1764 Cordale, 1823 Cordail
 The second element is derived from ON dalr, m, 'valley'. The meaning of the first element is obscure.

Cordale Beag [k'ɔrdəl 'bøk] NF730076 231 R OS*
small C.
 1874 Cordal Beg
 The first element of this name remains obscure. See Cordale.

Cordale Beag Bay NF732075 231 W SH
bay of small C.
 1901 Cordel Beg Bay
 See Cordale Beag.

Cordale Mór [k'ɔrdəl 'mo:r] NF738083 231 R OS*
big C.
 1874 Cordal Mor
 This is possibly the site of an earlier settlement. See Cordale.

Cordale Mór Bay NF741082 231 W SH
bay of big C.
 1901 Cordel More Bay
 See Cordale Mór.

- Cordale Beag** [k'ɔrdəl 'bɛk] NF730076 231 R OS*
small C.
 1874 Cordal Beg
 The first element of this name remains obscure. See Cordale.
- Cornaig Bay** ['kɔrnek 'be:] NL636967 247 W OS*
corn bay
 1823 Ba Chornaig, 1865 Bagh Cornaig
 A combination of ON korn, n, 'corn' and ON vík, f, 'bay'. All locals call this place Bàgh Chòrnaig.
- Corran Bán** [k'ɔran 'bɑ:n] NF708104 216 R OS*
white sickle
 1823 Corrunbane, 1874 Corrun Bane
 A name for a fishing ground.
- Cotan an Laoigh** [k'ɔʰtənə 'lɔi] NF669008 231 E OR
fold of the calf
 See Cotan Bellag.
- Cotan Beileig** [k'ɔʰtən 'bɛlək] NL652980 247 F OR
Bellag's fold
 G cotan, m, a loan from Eng. fold, related to Eng. cottage.
- Cotan Mór Néill Eòin** [k'ɔʰtən ,mo:r ,Nɛ:l e'auin] NF710013 231 E OR
fold of Marian (daughter of) Neil (son of) Jonathan
 See Cotan Bellag.
- Cotan nan Laogh** [k'ɔʰtənən 'Lɔɣ] NF697053 231 E OR
fold of the calves
 See Cotan Bellag.
- Craigieo** NL556807 260 W ML
 1823 Craigieo
 Possibly a combination of ON kráka, 'crow' and ON gjá, 'gully'.
- Craigston** ['k'rek'stən] NF660014 231 S OS*
settlement of the stone
 1654 Balnacarrig, 1807 Craigstown, 1823 Balnacraig
 Alias: Baile na Creige
 C. is a combination of Sco. craig 'rock' and OE tun, 'farm'. Its G equivalent is Baile na Creige.
- Crannag** ['k'ranak] NF705048 231 R OS*
fortified island
 1810 Cranack, 1823 Cragnag
- Creag** [k'rek] NL608880 260 R SH
rock

1910 Craig

Creag 'icCeallaig Àrd <i>MacKellaig's high rock</i> 1823 Cregichelig MacKellaig was on the run and hid at this rock which screened him from view from above and from below.	[,k'rek'iç ,k'elak 'ɑ:ɾd]	NF725029	231 R	ML
Creag 'icCeallaig Ìseal <i>MacKellaig's low rock</i> See Creag 'icCeallaig Àrd.	[,k'rek'iç ,k'elak 'i:ʃɑl]	NF725029	231 R	OR
Creag a' Bhainne <i>rock of the milk</i> Nan MacKinnon locates this name at NL626972.	[,k'rek'ə 'vɛnɔ̃]	NL623968	247 R	OR
Creag a' Bharra <i>summit rock</i>	[,k'rek'ə 'vɑɾɔ̃]	NL706996	247 R	OR
Creag a' Chlamhain <i>rock of the buzzard</i> Alias: Creag na Cuckoo	[,k'rek'ə 'xlavain]	NF707018	231 R	OR
Creag a' Chroinn <i>rock of the plough</i> Alias: A' Chreag Mhór 1823 Creagachruin G crann, m, has a number of meanings such as 'plough', 'tree', 'beam', 'lot', 'risk' (see Dwelly, 1901:260).	[,k'rek'ə 'xrøɪn]	NL655975	247 R	OS
Creag a' Ghobha <i>rock of the smith</i>	[,k'rek'ə 'gʰoə]	NF765033	231 R	OR
Creag an Airgid <i>rock of the silver</i>	[,k'rek'ə 'nær'ækət]	NF682009	231 R	OR
Creag an Airgid <i>rock of the silver</i> Alias: Creag an Òir	[,k'rek'ə 'nær'ækət]	NF656047	231 R	OR
Creag an Airgid a Deas <i>southern rock of the silver</i> In this name the specific may stand for a silvery coloured granite. Lachlan MacLean (Lachy John) calls this place Creag an Airgid.	[,k'rek'ə ,nær'ækətə 'd̪ɛs]	NF654046	231 R	OR
Creag an Daoimein <i>diamond rock</i> 1823 Craigandiemen G daoimean, m, is a loan from Eng. diamond. This rock is shaped like a diamond.	[,k'rek'ən'd̪øimein]	NF770041	231 R	ML
Creag an Fhithich	[,k'rek'ə 'ni-iç]	NL624944	247 R	OR

raven's rock

1901 Bein na Scape

The historical form of *Bein na Scape* originates from Sharbau's estate plan drawn in 1901. The specific of this name may refer to the old name of Vatersay Village *An Scarp*.

Creag an Laoigh [k'rek'ə 'lɔi] NL665997 247 R OR
rock of the calf
 Alias: Creag na h-Iolaire

Creag an Loch [k'rek'ə 'lɔx] NL643996 247 R OR
rock of the lake

Creag an Nuail [k'rek'ə 'nɔal] NF666036 231 R OR
rock of the lamentation/praise

Creag an Òir [k'rek'ə 'Nɔ:r] NF656047 231 R OR
rock of the gold
 Alias: Creag an Airgid

Creag an Park [k'rek'əN 'p'ærɪk] NF648008 231 R OR
rock of the enclosure
 The name has undergone partial anglicisation and what was no doubt formerly known as Creag na Pàirce is now *Creag an Park*.

Creag an Rubha [k'rek'ə 'Ruɔ] NF722023 231 R OR
rock of the point

Creag an t-Silidh [k'rek'əN 'ʃili] NF704030 231 S CR
dripping rock
 1823 Creganuille, 1824 Creagantille
 G silidh is the genitive case of 'sileadh', 'dripping' (Dwelly, 1901:839). G sileadh has the additional meanings of 'rain' and 'shower'. See section 2.6.5.4.

Creag an t-Siùcair [k'rek'əN 'ʃu:ɪkər] NL683987 247 R OR
rock of the sugar
 G siùcar, m, a loan from MEng. sugre, 'sugar'.

Creag an t-Srutha [k'rek'əN t'ru:] NL656979 247 R OR
rock of the current

Creag an Tombaca [k'rek'ə t'ə'baxkɔ] NF765046 231 R OR
rock of the tobacco
 The specific is related to Eng. tobacco.

Creag Bearraidh Uisge [k'rek'ə b'ɛRi 'uʃkɔ] NL652985 247 R OR
rock of the watershed
 G bearradh is a 'mountain ridge' (see Dwelly, 1901:84).

Creag Dhearg [k'rek'ə 'jɛRak] NL566845 260 R OS
red rock
 Alias: A' Chreag Ruadh

John MacLeod calls this place A' Chreag Ruadh. Joseph Sinclair and Donald MacNeil locate Creag Dhearg 300 m further north-east.

Creag Dhòmhnaill Ruaidh <i>rock of Red Donald</i>	[k'rek' ,ɣɔ̃əL 'Ru-əʃ]	NL638955	247 R	OR
Creag Faochaig <i>winkle rock</i>	[k'rek' 'fɬ:xak]	NL553801	260 R	OR
Creag Feannaig <i>crow rock</i>	[k'rek' 'fænak]	NF662035	231 R	OR
Creag Ghrobaig <i>little tooth-shaped rock</i>	[k'rek' 'ɣrɔbak]	NF693028	231 R	OR
Creag Gòraig The informant mentioned that G gòrag means 'kelpie', a 'female supernatural figure' who may have been seen at this rock. Dwelly (1901:517) lists 'foolish woman', 'young she-crow', 'sheaf of corn standing upright and isolated on a field in harvest', 'female scare-crow'.	[k'rek' 'gɔ:rak]	NF732014	231 R	OR
Creag Iain Dhuinn <i>rock of Brown John</i>	[k'rek' ,i:aiN 'ɣuiN]	NF714014	231 R	OR
Creag Labhar <i>speaking rock</i>	[ə,xrek'ə 'Lãũər]	NL626963	247 R	OR
Creag Labhar <i>speaking rock</i> This place is located at <i>Ciste na Clithe</i> , the old coffin carriers' route to Eoligaray. "One day when a procession passed, the man in the coffin spoke and said that the rock would fall one day on a MacNeil woman. Hence its name." Flora Boyd.	[k'rek'ə 'Lãũər]	NF677050	231 R	OR
Creag Mhór <i>big rock</i> Alias: Creag Mhór Shanndraigh	[k'rek' 'vo:r]	NL640902	247 R	OS
Creag Mhór <i>big rock</i>	[k'rek' 'vo:r]	NL550802	260 R	OS
Creag Mhór <i>big rock</i> 1865 Craigmor, 1901 Craigvore	[k'rek' 'vo:r]	NL661957	247 R	OS*
Creag Mhór an Eilein <i>big rock of the island</i> Alias: A' Chreag Mhór, Meall Mór	[k'rek' ,vo:rə 'Nel'ɛN]	NF763033	231 R	OR
Creag Mhór na Brataich <i>big rock of the flag</i>	[k'rek' ,vo:rənə 'bra ^h tiç]	NL682974	247 R	OR
Creag Mhór Shanndraigh	[k'rek' ,vo:r 'haundrɛi]	NL640902	247 R	OR

big rock of S.

Alias: Creag Mhór

See Sandray.

Creag na Croise	[k'rek'nə 'k'ɾɔʃɔ]	NL660986	247 R	OR
<i>rock of the cross</i>				

Creag na Cuckoo	[k'rek'nə 'kuku:]	NF707018	231 R	OR
<i>rock of the cuckoo</i>				
Alias: Creag a' Chlamhain				
The specific occurs in the Eng. form and not as expected in G.				

Creag na Culaidh	[k'rek'nə 'kuɫaj]	NF724023	231 R	OR
<i>boat rock / rock of the vestments</i>				
Legend has it that the G culaidh was associated with a priest's vestments and therefore this stone is said to have served as a place for services during the reformation when catholics were prevented from open worship. G culaidh also means boat. Either derivation is possible.				

Creag na h-Eidhne	[k'rek'nə 'he:ɪn]	NF744024	231 R	OR
<i>rock of the ivy</i>				

Creag na h-Ighne	[k'rek'nə 'hĩ:Njə]	NL644991	247 R	OR
<i>rock of the girl</i>				
A girl fell and died here.				

Creag na h-Iolaire	[k'rek'nə 'hĩɫɪr'ɔ]	NL665997	247 R	OR
<i>rock of the eagle</i>				
Alias: Creag an Laoigh				
Roderick MacNeil locates this place-name at NL652994.				

Creag na h-Iolaire	[k'rek'nə 'hĩɫɪr'ɔ]	NL666997	247 R	OR
<i>rock of the eagle</i>				

Creag na h-Iolaire	[k'rek'nə 'hĩɫɪr'ɔ]	NL691937	247 R	OS*
<i>rock of the eagle</i>				
1865 Eagles' Craig				

Creag na h-Òb	[k'rek'nə 'hɔ:p]	NF708017	231 R	OR
<i>rock of the enclosed bay</i>				
See Ben Obe. Micheil Iain MacKinnon locates this place-name at NF706021.				

Creag nam Muc	[k'rek'nə 'muxk]	NF669032	231 R	OR
<i>rock of the pigs</i>				

Creag nan Galais	[k'rek'nən 'galaɪ]	NF729008	231 R	OR
<i>rock of the braces</i>				

Creag nan Lòn	[k'rek'nə 'lɔ:N]	NL656978	247 R	OR
<i>rock of the water puddles</i>				

Creag Risebig	[k'rek' 'Rɪfəbɪk]	NF731019	231 R	OR
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rock of brushwood bay

The second element is uncertain. It may be a primary name consisting of ON *hrís*, *n*, ‘bent grass’ and ON *vík*, *f*, ‘bay’.

Creag Spìric [k'rek' 'spi:rek] NF690000 231 R OR
pinnacle rock

Creag Spìric Ìseal [k'rek' ,spi:rek 'i:ʃal] NL690999 247 R OR
lower pinnacle rock
See Creag Spìric.

Creag Taigh Lachlainn [k'rek' ,t'øj 'laxlən] NF708004 231 R OR
rock of Lachlan's house

Creagan Cuidhe Mhurchaidh [k'regan ,kuiə 'vuruxi] NF656008 231 R OR
little rock of Murdoch's enclosure
A combination of G *creag*, *f*, ‘rock’, G *cuidhe*, *f*, from ON *kví*, *f*, ‘enclosure’ and the G personal name Murdoch.

Creagan Gorm [k'regan 'gɔ-rəm] NF687048 231 R ML
a little blue rock
1823 Cregangarm

Creagan Móra [k'regan 'mo:rɔ] NL662995 247 R ML
large rocks
1823 Creganmore
The three summits of An Sgùmban a Tuath, An Sgùmban Meadhoin and An Sgùmban an Ear are called *Creagan Móra*.

Creagan na Cheàrdaich [k'reganə 'ʃeə:ʃtiʃ] NF658013 231 R OR
little rock of the smithy

Creagan Roinich [k'regan 'RɔNiʃ] NL653984 247 R OR
rocky place of fern

Crimacal [k'rimaxkəl] NL611917 247 OR
Alternative versions of this name are Grimacal and Brimacal. This name remains completely obscure.

Crìochan [k'riɔxan] NL687989 247 S CR
boundary
1838 Criachan

Crois an t-Suidheachain [k'rɔʃə N'dujaxən] NL566828 260 R OS6"
cross of the seat

“This name applies to a small spot with some trace of what appears to have been a building and is traditionally believed to have been a place of worship erected by a disciple of St. Columba. A few stones only are remaining.” OS Object Name Book.

- Croit Iseabail** [k'ɾo^hʃ 'iʃəbəl] NL564797 260 R OR
Isabel's croft
 G croit, f, from Eng. croft. Iseabal was the name of Calum Mhìcheil's grandmother who had her croft here.
- Cruach a' Phoileasmain** [k'ruaxə 'fɔlismən] NF712009 231 R OR
stack of the policeman
 The specific is a loan from Eng. 'policeman'.
- Cruach na h-Aibhne** [k'ruaxnə 'hainjɔ̃] NL693937 247 R ML
stack of the river
 1823 -
- Crubanstal Rock** [k'rubanstəl 'rɔk] NF732073 231 U AD
rock of C.
 1874 -
 Crubanstal is a historic form of Crubisdale of which the specific is obscure. See Crubisdale.
- Crubisdale** [k'rupisdəl] NL648987 247 S OS
 The specific is uncertain. The generic may derive either from ON stōðull, m, 'milking-place', or from ON dalr, m, 'valley'. The geographic location allows for either interpretation. There are two places in the Barra group with this name, possibly more in the Hebrides.
- Crubisdale** [k'rupisdəl] NF734077 231 S OS*
 1823 Crubidale, 1878 Crubidale
 This may be the site of an earlier settlement. The OS Object Name Book refers to a number of ruins at this site. See Crubisdale.
- Cuaraidh MhicIain Léitheadh** [k'uariviçk ʔi:ai̯n 'lɛhəɾ] NF698088 231 O OR
quarry of the son of Grey John
 G cuaraidh is a loan from Eng. quarry.
- Cuaraidh nan Sàileach** [k'uarinə 'sa:lɔx] NF710018 231 O OR
quarry of the people from Kintail
 See Cuaraidh MhicIain Léitheadh.
- Cuialachbeg** [k'uiəlɔx 'bɛk] NL627998 247 E OS*
small hidden enclosure
 1823 Cuialachveg, 1865 Cuilech Bheag, 1901 Cuilech Beg
 See Cuidhe Fhalaich.
- Cuialachmore** [k'uiəlɔx 'mo:r] NL623988 247 E OS*
big hidden enclosure
 1823 Cuialachvore
 Alias: A' Bheinn Bheag, Beinn na Cuidhe Fhalaiche
 See Cuidhe Fhalaich.
- Cuidhe an t-Sruth** [k'uiən 't'ru] NL656977 247 E OR
enclosure of the current

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Bheag a' Bhuntàta [k'ui ,vøkə 'məndɑ:tɔ] NF640002 231 E OR
small fold of the potatoes

This name is a primary name and is extracted from Lag Cuidhe Bheag a' Bhuntàta. See A' Chuidhe. G buntàta, m, a loan from Eng. potato.

Cuidhe Chorsdail [k'ui 'xɔʃdəl] NF655000 231 E OR
enclosure of cross valley

This name may hint at a primary settlement called Corsdale. There is no other evidence of the existence of a place called Corsdale. The name is a combination of G cuidhe, f, a loan from ON kví, f, 'enclosure', ON kross, m, 'cross' and ON dalr, m, 'valley'.

Cuidhe Dhòmhnaill Eòin [k'ui ,xɔ-ələ'eauin] NL561806 260 E OR
enclosure of Donald (of) Jonathan

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Eòin Néill Bhig [k'ui ,e'auin ,nē:l'vik] NF726020 231 E OR
enclosure of Jonathan (of) Little Neil

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Fhalaich [k'ui 'alax] NL625990 247 E OR
hidden enclosure

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Ghadhalum [k'ui 'gɑ-aləm] NL650940 247 E OR
enclosure of ?

The specific is likely to be Norse. It was not possible to establish its meaning.

Cuidhe Gharraidh Eòin [k'uiɾɑri e'auin] NF670036 231 E OR
enclosure of Jonathan's field

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Mhurchaidh [k'uiə'vuruxi] NF656008 231 E OR
Murdoch's enclosure

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Néill Iagain [k'ui ,nē:l'iagən] NF721026 231 E OR
enclosure of Neil (son of) John

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidhe Roinich [k'ui 'RɔNiʃ] NF730019 231 E OR
enclosure of the fern

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuidheachan an Dùin [k'uiəxanən 'dū:n] NF661034 231 E OR
little enclosure of the fort

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuier [k'uiər] NL637947 247 S OS*
enclosure

1823 -, 1825 Quire

See A' Chuidhe.

Cuier [ˈkʷiør] NF671035 231 S OS
enclosure

Borgstrøm sees a connection between the church in Cuier and the graveyard. Furthermore, Ben Cuier in Vatersay is located in proximity to a burial-ground. Borgstrøm suggests that Cuier may have been derived from ON kirkja, f, 'church', or possibly ON kirkjugarðr, 'graveyard', and not from ON kví (Campbell, 1936:295).

Cùil 'ic Ladhmainn [kʷu:l,ɪçk ˈlã:min] NL569821 260 R OR
Lamont's neuk

Cùil a' Bhàigh [kʷu:lə ˈvã:ɣ] NL648901 247 R OR
neuk of the bay

G bàgh, m, related to ON vágr, f, 'bay'.

Cùil a' Bhaile [kʷu:lə ˈvalɔ̃] NL669978 247 R OR
neuk of the village

This primary name is related to Sgeirean Cùil a' Bhaile.

Cùil a' Ghàraidh [kʷu:lə ˈɣarəɣ] NF724017 231 R OR
neuk of the dyke

This used to be the back of a wall that was built as a boundary for the common grazing or a field. G gàraidh, m, a loan from ON garðr, m, 'dyke', 'wall'.

Cùil an Dùin [kʷu:lə ˈdũ:n] NF656014 231 R OR
neuk of the fortification

Cùil Bhaldie [kʷu:l ˈvaldi] NL649975 247 R OR
Baldie's neuk

Baldie is the abbreviated form of Archibald.

Cùil Cinn [kʷu:l ˈkĩ:n] NF715035 231 R OR
back of the head dyke

This is land outside the allocated ground.

Cùil Dhùghaill [kʷu:l ˈɣu-əl] NF654045 231 R OR
Dougall's neuk

Cùil Leatramain [kʷu:l ˈletramin] NL572802 260 R OR
G cùil means 'neuk'. The semantics of this name are uncertain. The specific is related to G leatrom, in the further sense of 'pregnancy'. G leatroman or leatraman is a still-born child or dead baby. Ronald Black suggests that a woman or a girl had a child there and abandoned it.

Cùil Mhurchaidh [kʷu:l ˈvuruxi] NF673038 231 R OR
Murdoch's neuk

Cùil na Buaille [kʷu:l nə ˈbualɔ̃] NF723012 231 R OR
neuk of the enclosure

Cùil na Horgh <i>neuk of H.</i> See Horough.	[k'u:lnə 'hɔɾɔɣ]	NL659980	247 R	OR
Cùil nan Eun <i>neuk of the birds</i>	[k'u:lnən 'i:an]	NF690058	231 R	OR
Cùilean Taigh a' Mhàil <i>little neuk of T.</i> See Taigh a' Mhàil.	[k'u:lnən t'ɔjə 'vā:l]	NL654983	247 R	OR
Cuiveg Point <i>point of the small enclosure</i> 1865 Gronish beg See A' Chuidh.	[k'uivek 'pɔint]	NL567795	260 R	OS*
Culnamuck <i>neuk of the pigs</i>	[k'u:lnə 'mʊxk]	NF651002	231 R	OS
Curachan <i>rock formation shaped like a wicker-boat</i> 1865 -	[k'urəxan]	NL747994	247 W	OS*
Dam	['dam]	NF686039	231 R	OS
Dam	['dam]	NF691053	231 R	OS
Dam	['dam]	NF695032	231 R	OS
Dàm Phònags <i>Phonags's dam</i> 'Phonags' is the nickname of Seumas MacDonald on whose croft a little pool was located. G dàm, m, a loan from Eng. dam.	[ɖaum 'fɔnaks]	NF700082	231 R	OR
Decca Station	['dæka 'ste:fɪn]	NF712008	231 S	OR
Doc an Diver This place is located in the interior and describes a deep bog. The semantics of this name are obscure. Ian A. Fraser suspects this name to be a fairly modern creation.	[ɖɔxkən 'daivər]	NL651979	247 W	OR
Doirinn <i>promontory</i>	[ɖɔ̃RL'ɪn]	NF640004	231 R	OS
Doirinn an Dùin <i>promontory of the fortification</i>	[ɖɔ̃RL'ɪnən 'dū:ɪn]	NL548823	260 R	OR
Doirinn Head <i>(head of the) promontory</i> 1865 -	[ɖɔ̃RL'ɪn 'hed]	NL624998	247 R	OS*

Douglas Point <i>Rubha Shuic</i> is the contemporary name of this location.	[ˌdɔɡlɪs ˈpɔɪnt]	NL554844	260 R	SH
Drimingen Alias: Druim an Aonaich The meaning of this name is obscure.	[ˈd̪rɪmɪŋɡən]	NL552830	260 R	OR
Drochaid 'ic Bhiocair <i>Mac Vicar's bridge</i>	[ˌdrɔxətˈiçk ˈviçkər]	NF704034	231 O	OR
Drochaid a' Bhéiceir <i>bridge of the baker</i> The specific is a G borrowing of the Eng. word 'baker'.	[ˌdrɔxətə ˈveːkər]	NL667983	247 O	OR
Drochaid a' Bhoidich <i>Boyd's bridge</i>	[ˌdrɔxətə ˈvɔɪdɪç]	NF722024	231 O	OR
Drochaid Bàgh Chòrnaig <i>bridge of B.</i> See Cornaig Bay.	[ˌdrɔxətə ˌbɑ ˈxɔːR̥ɲɪk]	NL631968	247 O	OR
Drochaid Cheann Tangabhail <i>bridge of C.</i> See Kentangaval.	[ˌdrɔxətə ˈxɛunˈtɑŋgəvəl]	NL657987	247 O	OR
Drochaid Ghunamul <i>bridge of G.</i> See Natural Arch and Gunamul.	[ˌdrɔxətə ˈɣuNəmul]	NL548824	260 O	OR
Drochaid nan Coineanach <i>bridge of the rabbits</i> G coinean, m, a loan from MEng. cunin, 'rabbit', 'coney'.	[ˌdrɔxətənə ˈŋɡənjenɔ̃x]	NF710038	231 O	OR
Drochaid nan Sàileach <i>bridge of the people from Kintail</i>	[ˌdrɔxətə ˈsɑːlɔ̃x]	NF709018	231 O	OR
Drolum The ON element troll, 'troll', 'demon', 'supernatural being', is often found in Norwegian mountain names. The generic may either be a derivation from an inversion of ON múli, m, 'headland' or from holmr, m, 'island'. Drolum is a peninsula. Its name may possibly be translated as 'fairy peninsula (island)'.	[ˈd̪rɔlum]	NF726021	231 E	OR
Druideal 1806 Drudeal This name occurs frequently as a settlement name in the Craigston Register, mostly spelt Druidal. The meaning of D. is obscure. There is a Druidale on the Isle of Man (NGR SC3688) and a Druidsdale in Grampian (NGR NO8481) which may contain a related specific.	[ˈd̪ruɪd̪ɛəl]	NF674040	231 S	CR
Druim a' Charraigh <i>ridge of the standing stone</i>	[ˌd̪ruimə ˈxɑri]	NL685997	247 R	OR*

1901 Drim Carragh

Druim an Aonaich [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈhʌːniç] NL552830 260 R OR
ridge of the flat-topped height

Alias: Drimingen

This place, also known as Drimingen, is located at the edge of Biulacraig. It is uncertain whether Aonach, the ‘flat-topped height’, describes the cliff or the nearest mountain to it, Carnan, which is the highest point of Mingulay.

Druim an Sgeilp NF663016 231 R ML
ridge / cliff of the shelf
 1823 Driumascailp

Druim an t-Sruth [ˌd̪ruimən ˈtʰru] NF719013 231 R OR
ridge of the current

Druim an Tobair [ˌd̪ruimən ˈtʰopər] NL650996 247 R OR
ridge of the well

Druim Feòla [ˌd̪ruim ˈfɛəɫə] NF661031 231 R OR
ridge of the flesh

Druim na Creige [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈkʰrekʲɔ] NF685001 231 R OR
ridge of the rock

Druim na Crìche [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈkʰriːçə] NL642944 247 R OR
ridge of the boundary

Druim na Muice [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈmuikʲɔ] NF757048 231 R OR
ridge of the pig

Druim nan Caorach [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈŋɡʲɫːrɔx] NL678977 247 R OR
ridge of the sheep

Druim nan Cruach [ˌd̪ruimnə ˈŋɡʲruax] NF722010 231 R OR
ridge of the peat stacks

Druisger Mhór [ˌd̪ruʃkər ˈvoːr] NF655031 231 R OR
 The meaning of the first element is obscure. The remaining elements are G sgeir, from ON sker, ‘skerry’, and G mhór, the feminine adjectival form of G mór, ‘big’.

Duarry Burn [ˌd̪uaɾi ˈbørn] NF673012 231 W OS
burn of the black shieling
 1878 Stapaig Burn

The OS Object Name Book refers to this stream as *Stapaig Burn*. G stapag is a dish prepared with milk, oatmeal, cream and whisky. Duarry Burn is a combination of G dubh, ‘dark’, G àirigh, f, and Sco. burn, ‘stream’.

Dùbhcharraig [ˌd̪uː ˈxarik] NL626977 247 R OR
black fishing rock

Dubhsgeir <i>black skerry</i> Alias: Sgeir Dubh G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, 'skerry', 'rock surrounded by water'.	[ˈd̪uʃkʲer]	NL667967	247 I	OR
Dùn <i>fortification</i> 1823 Dun of Bernera	[ˈd̪uːn]	NL548802	260 A	OS*
Dun <i>fortification</i> 1823 Dunvatersay	[ˈd̪uːn]	NL627945	247 A	OS*
Dun <i>fortification</i>	[ˈd̪uːn]	NL638914	247 A	OS
Dun <i>fortification</i>	[ˈd̪uːn]	NF702019	231 A	OS
Dùn <i>fortification</i> Alias: Dùn Ailig	[ˈd̪uːn]	NF715027	231 A	OS
Dùn a' Bharpa <i>fortification of the memorial cairn</i> 1823 Dunvarpa G barpa is 'a cairn in memory of the dead' (Dwelly, 1901:70). The word is ON in origin.	[ˌd̪uːnə ˈværp]	NF679021	231 A	ML
Dùn a' Bhogaich <i>fortification of B.</i> The OS call this place Dun. It is located opposite the township of Bogach, but not on Bogach territory. See Bogach.	[ˌd̪uːnə ˈvɔɡiç]	NF711029	231 A	OR
Dùn a' Chaolis <i>fortification of C.</i> 1823 Dunacholish, 1865 Dun a Caolas See Caolis.	[ˌd̪uːnə ˈxʌːliʃ]	NL626970	247 A	OS*
Dùn Ailig <i>Alick's fortification</i> Alias: Dùn Ailig is possibly a personal name.	[ˌd̪uːn ˈɛlik]	NF715027	231 A	OR
Dùn Allathasdail <i>fortification of A.</i> Alias: Dùn Cuier See Allasdale.	[ˌd̪uːn ˈalə-asdəl]	NF664034	231 A	OR
Dùn an t-Sléibh <i>fort of the hillslope</i> 1823 Dunantelve	[ˌd̪uːnən ˈtʲleːv]	NF661012	231 A	OS*

Dùn Bàn <i>white fortification</i> 1823 Dunban	[.d̪uːn 'b̪aːn]	NF631003	231 A	OS*
Dun Bluff 1865 - Alias: Dun Mingulay This name appears on only one historical record and is unknown amongst locals. "If 'bluff' is limited to Admiralty use (which it is in this case) it's a topographic term for a 'headland', mostly used in North America for prominent inland cliff-faces. The Admiralty use probably stemmed from the use of 'bluff' during Canadian coastal surveys, as it is not widely found in Britain." Ian A. Fraser.		NL544821	260 A	AD
Dùn Briste <i>broken fortification</i> 1823 Dunbrista	[.d̪uːn 'br̪iʃt̪ɔ̃]	NL548806	260 A	OS*
Dùn Chlif <i>fortification of the cliff</i> Alias: Dùnan Ruadh The specific is derived from ON klif, n, 'cliff', 'mountain'.	[.d̪uːn 'xl̪iʃ]	NF680054	231 A	OS
Dùn Cuier <i>fortification of C.</i> Alias: Dùn Allathasdail See Cuier.	[.d̪uːn 'xu̪iər]	NF665034	231 A	OS
Dùn Eachainn <i>Hector's fortification</i>	[.d̪uːn 'æx̪aːn]	NF713028	231 A	OR
Dùn MhicLeòid <i>MacLeod's fortification</i> 1901 St. Clair's Castle "The tower was built by a MacLean, Iain Garbh, and he was the son of Mor nan Ceann. He came to Barra with her, for what reason I don't know. They lived at first in Castle Kismul and then he built that castle for himself there. The island is artificial." Roderick MacNeil. There was no explanation why the tower was called after MacLeod and not after MacLean, who built it.	[.d̪uːnviç 'k'ɫɔːt̪ɪ]	NL647996	247 A	OS
Dùn Mingulay <i>fortification of M.</i> 1823 Dun Mhinulay Alias: Dun Bluff See Mingulay.	[.d̪uːn 'm̪iŋgəl̪e̪i] and [.d̪uːn 'm̪juːl̪aː]	NL544821	260 A	OS*
Dùn na Cille <i>fortification of the church</i>	[.d̪uːnə 'k'ɪl̪ɔ̃]	NF646016	231 A	OS*
Dùn Scurrival	[.d̪uːn 'sku̪ɾ̪iʋal]	NF695081	231 A	OS*

fortification of S.

1823 Dunscurrival

See Scurrival.

Dùnan Ruadh [ˌd̪uːNan ˈRuəɣ] NF683054 231 A OR
red little fort
 Alias: Dùn Chlif

Dùnan Ruadh [ˌd̪uːNan ˈRuəɣ] NL613876 260 A OS
red little fort

Dùnan Ruadh [ˌd̪uːNan ˈRuəɣ] NF726082 231 A OS*
red little fort
 1874 Dun Ruag, 1901 Dun Ruadh

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NF647003 231 R OS

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NL652920 247 R OS

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NF653020 231 R OS

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NF656035 231 R OS

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NF695065 231 R OS

Dunes [ˈd̪uːns] NF727083 231 R OS

Dunhalindvay NL639904 247 A ML
 1823 -

The first part of the name may be derived from G dùn, fort. The middle part may be related to Hàllainn as in Cnoc Hàllainn, the burial ground in South Uist. The last part of the name may represent the lenited form of G bàgh from ON vík, ‘bay’.

Eadar an Dà Bheinn [eːdərə ˈd̪aː ˈvøɪn] NF704071 231 R OR
between the two mountains
 Alias: Bealach an Dà-Bheinn
 One of the few names containing a preposition.

Earsary [ˈɛəsəɾi] NL701998 247 S OS*
Eric’s shieling

1823 Ersary, 1828 Earsarie

The 1828 entry originates from the Register of Sasines, 1828 (788). A combination of ON Eiríkr and G àirigh, f, ‘shieling’. The personal name Eric is mentioned as Eiríkr (m) in Rygh (1901:62).

Eilean a’ Ceud [ˌelɛNə ˈkʲiət] NF764044 231 T OS
island of the one hundred

G eilean, m, a loan from ON eyland, corresponding to ON øy, f, ‘island’. The specific may indicate some sort of measurement; possibly the amount of animals the island’s vegetation supported.

- Eilean a' Ghamhna** [el'ɛnə 'ɡaun̪s̪] NF756048 231 I OS*
island of the stirk
 1823 Ellenaghana, 1823 Ellennaghaana, 1874 Stirk Island, 1901 Stirk Point
 See Eilean a' Ceud.
- Eilean a' Mhàil** [el'ɛnə 'vā:l̪] NF710000 231 I OS
island of the rent
 See Eilean a' Ceud.
- Eilean Ailein** [el'ɛn 'ælain̪] NF717029 231 I OR
Allan's island
 See Eilean a' Ceud.
- Eilean Ailig** [el'ɛn 'ɛlik] NF715028 231 I OR
Alick's island
 Alias: Sgeir na Cloiche
 Donald Sinclair locates this place at NF718031. See Eilean a' Ceud.
- Eilean an t-Seannsair** [el'ɛnən 'ʃāūsər] NF722024 231 I OR
Chanter's island
 See Eilean a' Ceud. 'Chanter' was the nickname of the man who used to tie up his boat at this location.
- Eilean Beag Rubha na h-Acarsaid** [el'ɛn ,b̥ək ,runə 'haxkiʃat̪] NF733011 231 I OR
small island of the anchorage
 Alias: Eilean Rainich
 See Eilean a' Ceud and Rubha na h-Acarsaid.
- Eilean Bheanais** NL686932 247 T ML
island of the straight headland
 1823 Ellenvaihinish, 1901 Eilean Vaihinish
 See Eilean a' Ceud and Bannish in Mingulay.
- Eilean Carraig Bhreun** [el'ɛn k'arek 'vr̪iən] NF659050 231 I OR
island of C.
 See Eilean a' Ceud and A' Charraig Bhreun.
- Eilean Ceann na Tràigh** [el'ɛn k'ɛunə 'd̪r̪a:ɟ̪] NF674050 231 I OR
island at C.
 See Eilean a' Ceud and Ceann na Tràigh.
- Eilean Dallaig** [el'ɛn 'd̪al'ak] NL707991 247 I OR
island of dog-fish
 See Eilean a' Ceud.
- Eilean Dallaig** [el'ɛn 'd̪al'ak] NF694080 231 T OS
island of dog-fish
 See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean Dhomhaidh <i>Duncan's island</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛN 'ɣuNaxəj]	NL703992	247 I	OR
Eilean Dhùghaill Phàdraig <i>Dougall (son of) Patrick's island</i> Alias: Na h-Eileanan, Na h-Eileanan Glasa See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛN ,ɣu-əL'fɑ:drik]	NF719030	231 I	OR
Eilean Leathann <i>broad island</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛN 'L'æ ^h əN]	NF713031	231 I	OR
Eilean Loisgte <i>burnt island</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛN 'Lʌft]	NF709031	231 I	OR
Eilean MhicFhraing <i>Rankin's island</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNiʃk 'ræŋ]	NF722028	231 I	OR
Eilean Mór <i>big island</i> 1823 Ellenmore, 1846 -, 1865 Eileanmore See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛN 'mo:r]	NL658906	247 I	OS*
Eilean na Cailliche <i>island of the old woman</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNə 'k'aliçə]	NL665956	247 I	OR
Eilean na Cartach <i>island of the water-lily</i> 1823 Ellenacartach See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNə 'k'artɔx]	NF762039	231 I	ML
Eilean na Clàrsaich <i>island of the harp</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNə 'k'Laɪʃɔx]	NF725031	231 R	OS
Eilean na Coille <i>island of the vegetation</i> 1823 Ellenacoilla, 1874 Ea coille Alias: Colla See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNə 'køLɔ]	NF743028	231 I	ML
Eilean na Craoibh <i>island of the tree</i> Alias: Eilean nan Rodan, Eilean nan Gàadh, An t-Eilean Beag, Statue Island See Eilean a' Ceud.	[,el'ɛNə 'k'rʌ:v]	NF706032	231 I	OR
Eilean na Cuiseig	[,el'ɛNə 'kufak]	NF715019	231 I	OR

island of the long grass

Alias: Eilean nan Rodan

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean na Cuiseig [el'ɛNə 'kufak] NF713022 231 R OR

island of the long grass

One informant located Eilean na Cuiseig on land at the south end of Bogach. See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean na h-aon Chaorach [el'ɛNə 'hʌ:n 'xʌ:rɔx] NF725035 231 I OR

island of the one sheep

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nam Bluebells [el'ɛNən 'blu:bels] NF714027 231 I OR

island of the bluebells

Alias: Bluebell Island

See Eilean a' Ceud. The specific is English.

Eilean nan Creachann [el'ɛNən 'ŋgraxan] NF734032 231 I OR

island of the clams

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Eun [el'ɛNə 'ni:an] NL606964 247 I OR

island of the birds

Alias: Sgeir Bhioraghasdail

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Eun Beaga [el'ɛNə 'ni:an 'bøkɔ] NF647047 231 I OS*

island of the little birds

1823 Ellenanianbeg

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Eun Móra [el'ɛNə 'ni:an 'mo:rɔ] NF646050 231 I OS*

island of the big birds

1654 Ylen nan Neen, 1823 Ellenanianmore

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Gàadh [el'ɛNən 'gʲɔi] NF706032 231 I OR

island of the geese

Alias: Eilean nan Rodan, Eilean na Craoibh, An t-Eilean Beag, Statue Island

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Lion [el'ɛNən 'lʲian] NF727027 231 T OR

island of nets

1901 Net Island

See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean nan Rodan [el'ɛNən 'rɔdan] NL664973 247 I OR

island of the rats

See Eilean a' Ceud. G rodan or radan, m, a loan from MEng. raton, 'rat'.

Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i>	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NL666975	247 I	OR
This name may have its origin that the local population wished the rats to be as far away from the village as possible. The name may have been chosen to encourage rats to go there instead of anywhere else.				
Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i> Alias: Eilean na Cuiseig	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NF715019	231 I	OR
Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i> Alias: Eilean nan Gàadh, Eilean na Craoibh, An t-Eilean Beag, Statue Island	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NF706032	231 I	OR
Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i> See Eilean a' Ceud. G rodan or radan, m, a loan from MEng. raton, 'rat'.	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NF653044	231 I	OR
Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i> Alias: An t-Eilean Beag, An t-Eilean Dubh	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NF660049	231 I	OR
Eilean nan Rodan <i>island of the rats</i> Alias: An t-Eilean Dubh	[el'ɛNən 'Rɔdan]	NL665973	247 I	OR
Eilean nan Seasgachan <i>island of the dry cows</i> G seasgach means 'cows giving no milk'. See Eilean a' Ceud.	[el'ɛNən 'ʃɛsgaxən]	NF761044	231 I	OR
Eilean nan Taighean <i>island of the houses</i> 1874 Eilean na Leghin See Eilean a' Ceud.	[el'ɛNə n'dæm]	NF732005	231 T	OR
Eilean nan Tunnag <i>island of the ducks</i> See Eilean a' Ceud.	[el'ɛNən 't'uNak]	NF711011	231 I	OR
Eilean Risebig <i>island of brushwood bay</i> 1823 Ellenrushibrick See Eilean a' Ceud and Creag Risebig.	[el'ɛN 'Rɪʃəbɪk]	NF730020	231 I	ML
Eilean Roinich <i>fern island</i> Alias: Eilean Beag Rubha na h-Acarsaid See Eilean a' Ceud.	[el'ɛN 'RɔNɪç]	NF733011	231 I	OR
Eilean Sheumais <i>island of James</i>	[el'ɛN 'he:miʃ]	NF740029	231 I	OS*

1874 James Island
See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eilean Vialish [el'ɛN 'viãniʃ] NF714086 231 I OS*
island of the isthmus of the headland (?)

1823 Ellenviallish, 1874 Vialish Island

Local informants corrected the OS entry to Eilean Vianish. The sounds of /l/ and /n/ are occasionally interchanged. The specific may be a combination of ON eið, 'isthmus' and ON nes, 'headland'. The map shows that at low tide Eilean Vianish is connected with Tràigh Scurrival and the isthmus in question may be the narrow strip of land between Ben Scurrival and the hill on which Dùn Scurrival is located.

Eileanan Choinnich [el'ɛN 'xɔNiç] NL708994 247 I OR
Kenneth's islands
See Eilean a' Ceud.

Eoligarry [e'ɔ:liɣaRi] NF704077 231 S OS*
Oli's enclosure

1654 Olabery, 1820 Eoligary, 1822 Oligarry, 1823 Eoilsgary

According to Borgstrøm (Campbell, 1936:294) the first element of this name cannot be derived from the ON personal name Olafr, as this would require the possessive 's' in its composition. The names Olafr and Qlofr can easily be mixed up with the ON personal name Oli which was used in both Norway and Iceland after 1300. In combination with a generic these personal names do not require an 's' to indicate ownership. Likewise the specific of this name may also be related to Aulvir, Aulir or Qlvir. The second element is G gearraidh, m, from ON gerði, n, 'enclosure', 'fenced or hedged field', a popular ON generic for a farm with fertile soil.

Eoligarry House [e'ɔ:liɣaRi 'haus] NF703077 231 S ML
1823 Eoilgary House, 1865 Eoligary House
Alias: An Taigh Geal, An Taigh Mór
See Eoligarry.

Eoligarry Jetty [e'ɔ:liɣaRi 'dʒeti] NF714076 231 O OS
See Eoligarry.

Eorisdale [e'ɔ:Riʃdæl] NL643941 247 S OS*
valley of the sand island

1823 Eorsdale, 1878 Eolisdale

Possibly a combination of ON eyrr, f, 'sand island at the mouth of a river' and ON dalr, m, 'valley'. "Applies to a small district formerly cultivated on the south-east side of Vatersay Island." OS Object Name Book.

Eron NL650937 247 I SH
The pronunciation of this name is unknown. It looks like G earrann, a common word meaning 'share', 'portion' or 'section of land'. The name originates from Sharbau's estate plan drawn in 1901 and designates a rock in the sea south of Vatersay.

Factory ['faktɔri] NF694056 231 S OS
factory

This name designates the former shell grit factory, which used to process the cockle-shells of the nearby Tràigh Mhór. Since the protection law for the cockle-layers has been tightened, partially to maintain a hard enough landing strip on the shore, the factory has closed. The house was initially built by Sir Compton Mackenzie who called it 'Suidheachan'. The building has been restored and now is a guest house.

Fang an Loch <i>sheep pen of the loch</i>	[ˈfɑŋgən ˈlɔx]	NL645995	247 E	OR
Fang na Creige <i>sheep pen of the rock</i>	[ˈfɑŋgnə ˈkʲrekʲ]	NF761035	231 E	OR
Fang na Lice <i>sheep pen of the flagstone</i>	[ˈfɑŋgnə ˈlʲɪkʲə]	NL652974	247 E	OR
Feans <i>fence</i> This fence was built to protect cattle from falling into Sloc Freumh.	[ˈfens]	NF652047	231 O	OR
Féith 'icDhonnchaidh <i>bog stream of the son of Duncan</i>	[ˈfɛiʃk ˈɣʉnaxəj]	NL651997	247 W	OR
Féith na Cailliche <i>bog stream of the old woman</i>	[ˈfɛiːnə ˈkʲaliʃə]	NF693011	231 W	OR
Fiaray 1549 Feray, 1654 Fara, 1695 Fiaray, 1764 Feala, 1823 Fiaray, 1846 Fiaray I., 1848 Fiarra I., 1865 Fiaray ON ey, f, 'island', is preceded by an obscure specific.	[ˈfiarɛi]	NF703105	216 I	OS*
Fionnphort <i>white harbour</i> 1823 Fionaphort G port, m, a loan from Lat. portus, 'harbour', 'port'.	[ˈfiːnəfuʃt]	NF765054	231 W	ML
Fish House 1865 -	[ˈfiʃ ˈhaus]	NL666973	247 S	AD
Fiteag Mhór <i>large border</i> Alias: Bruach nam Bràithrean G fiteag describes 'a place where sand and grass meet'. It is close to the shore.	[ˈfiʰʃakˈvoːr]	NF658032	231 R	OR
Fleetwood Fleetwood is the name of a ship which used to anchor at Vatersay Bay. Its name was transferred from the ship to an area close by.	[ˈfliːtwud]	NL634946	247 S	OR
Flodaigh Bheag <i>small F.</i> Alias: Flodaigh Mheadhonach, Flodaigh Ghainmheineach See Flodday.	[ˈflɔtɛi ˈvɛk]	NL611920	247 I	OR
Flodaigh Ghainmheineach <i>sandy F.</i> Alias: Flodaigh Mheadhonach, Flodaigh Bheag See Flodday.	[ˈflɔtɛi ˈjenjənax]	NL611920	247 I	OR

- Flodaigh Mheadhonach** [ˈflɔtəi ˈviəNɔx] NL611920 247 I OR
middle F.
 Alias: Flodaigh Bheag, Flodaigh Ghainmheineach
 See Flodday.
- Flodaigh Mhór** [ˈflɔtəi ˈvo:r] NL612924 247 I OR
big F.
 See Flodday.
- Flodday** [ˈflɔtəi] NL607921 247 I OS*
floating / fleet island
 1549 Fladay, 1654 Fladda, 1794b Fladda I., 1823 Flodday
 Borgstrøm suggests two possible meanings for this name: ‘Fleet island’ (Heggstad, 1930:168), and ‘floating island’ (Heggstad, 1930:167), (Campbell, 1936:290). Eysteinsson derives this name, which also applies to an island off Harris, from the ON adj. flat, ‘flat’, and points out that the highest peak on this island is 21 m high. Although the islands called Flodday in the Barra group are generally twice as high, they still are relatively flat in comparison with their surrounding isles, so Eysteinsson’s translation appears the most likely. (See Eysteinsson, 1992:14).
- Flodday** [ˈflɔtəi] NF752023 231 I OS*
floating / fleet island
 1549 Fladay, 1654 Fladda, 1764 Flodday, 1794b Flatta, 1823 Flodday, 1824 Fladda, 1848 Flata I., 1854 Fladda, 1865 Flodday
 See Flodday.
- Fort** [ˈfɔrt] NL609963 247 A OS
- Fraoch Eilean** [ˈfrʌ:x ˌelˈɛN] NF719033 231 I OR
heather island
 See Eilean a’ Ceud.
- Fuaran na Horgh** [ˌfuərəNəˈhɔrəɹ] NF704039 231 W OR
fountain of H.
 See Horough.
- Fuday** [ˈfu:ɟəi] NF734085 231 I OS*
outside island
 1549 Fuday, 1654 Fuda, 1764 -, 1794 I. Fudia, 1823 Fuday, 1824 Fudia, 1846 Fuday, 1848 Fuday I. 1854 Fuda, 1865 Fuday
 Borgstrøm interprets this name as ‘outside island’ deriving the specific from the ON adj. út, ‘out’ and indicating that in G the fricative /f/ is occasionally added to words with an initial vowel (see Campbell, 1936:290) However, this island is not isolated and from a land based perspective there are islands further out in the sea. Only from a boat navigator’s point of view when approaching or leaving the main entrance to the sheltered harbour of Northbay would this choice of name make sense.

- Fuiay** ['fu:iaʲ] NF741024 231 I OS*
 1549 Hay, 1654 Viia, 1764 Fuiay, 1794b Wya I., 1819 Fuiadh, 1823 Fuiay, 1824 Wia, 1854 Uidhay, 1874 Fuiay
bird island
 A combination of ON fugl, 'bird' and ON øy, 'island'.
- Gaiseabhal** [ˈgʲaʃəval] NL651991 247 S CR
goose mountain
 1813 Gasbhal
 The derivation from ON gas, f, 'goose', seems to be more appropriate to the environment than OIr. gas for 'thicket', 'twig', 'shoot' as there is no sign of vegetation. The generic originates from ON fjall, n, 'mountain'. The place is said to have been inhabited at one time. See Gasaval.
- Gara Cruaidh** [ˈgʲaRi ˈkʲruaʲ] NF658025 231 E OS
hard enclosure
 Alias: An Curach
 The OS form gara is likely to be derived from ON gerði, n, 'enclosure', 'fenced or hedged field'.
- Gàradh Bhruairnis** [ˈgʲaRɐv ˈvru:R̥n̪iʃ] NF716023 231 S CR
dyke of B.
 1826 Garbruernish
 G gàradh, a loan from ON garðr, 'dyke', 'wall', 'mound'. See Bruernish.
- Gàradh Droma** [ˈgʲaRɐv ˈdromʃ] NL648945 247 F OR
ridge dyke
 This wall prevented sheep and cattle from entering the hilly area around *Am Meall*.
- Gàradh Leathann** [ˈgʲaRalen] NF646000 231 F OR
broad / wide dyke
 A combination of G gàradh, m, a loan from ON gerði, n, 'dyke', and of the G. adj. leathann, 'broad', 'wide'.
- Garbh Lingay** [ˈgʲaRi ˈlʲiŋgei] NF743033 231 I OS*
broad heather island
 1549 Garmlanga, 1654 Garulinga, 1823 Garlinga, 1824 Longa, 1874 Rough Lingay, 1987 Garbh Lingay
 G garbh, adj., 'rough', 'broad', ON lyng, n, 'heather', ON øy, f, 'island'. The translation of this name is 'broad heather island' as it contrasts with its neighbour Lingay-Phada, 'long heather island'.
- Gariemore** [ˈgʲaRɐv ˈmo:r] NF658017 231 S OS*
big dyke
 1826 Garriemore
 A combination of G gàradh from ON garðr, m, 'dyke', 'wall', and the G adj. mór, 'big'.
- Garrygall** [ˈgʲaRɐv ˈgʲal] NL675982 247 S OS
white dyke
 A combination of G gàradh from ON garðr, m, 'dyke' and the G adj. geal, 'white'.

Gasaval <i>goose mountain</i> 1823 Gashivalvore See Gaiseabhal.	[ˈgʷafəval]	NL651991	247 R	OS*
Geadhail Luachrach <i>rushy field</i> This name is related to Garieluachrach.	[ˌgʷɛə ˈluaxrɔ̃x]	NF666030	231 F	OR
Gearraidh an t-Sealastair <i>enclosure of the iris</i> G gearraidh, a loan from ON gerði, n, ‘enclosure’, ‘fenced field’, ‘garden’.	[ˌgʷariən ˈtʃɛləsɔ̃r]	NL633965	247 F	OR
Gearraidh Luachrach <i>enclosure of the common rush</i> 1823 Garieluachrach, 1878 Garaluachrach This name occurs frequently in the Craigston Register but is no longer in use. It is also mentioned in the OS Object Name Book.	[ˌgʷari ˈluəxɾax]	NF668030	231 S	ML
Gearraidh nan Caimbeulach <i>the Campbells’ enclosure</i> See Gearraidh an t-Sealastair.	[ˌgʷarinə ˈkʷaimpəliç]	NL653984	247 F	OR
Geata a’ Phuinn <i>gate of the pound</i> See An Geata Geal. G punnd, m, ‘fold’ is a loan from Eng. pound and designates a place for impounding stray animals.	[ˌgʷæʰtə ˈfuːɪntʰ]	NL677982	247 O	OR
Geata Dhrolum <i>gate of D.</i> See An Geata Geal and Drolum.	[ˌgʷæʰtə ɾɾɔlum]	NF727018	231 O	OR
Geata Leabaidh Dhòmhnaill Mhurchaidh <i>gate of L.</i> See An Geata Geal and Leabaidh Dhòmhnaill Mhurchaidh.	[ˌgʷæʰtə ˌlʲjæbi ˌɾɔ̃lˈvuruxi]	NF700004	231 O	OR
Geata na Beinneadh <i>gate of the mountain</i> See An Geata Geal.	[ˌgʷæʰtənə ˈbɛnəɾ]	NF723017	231 O	OR
Geata na h-Aibhne Ruaidh <i>gate of A.</i> See An Geata Geal and An Abhainn Ruadh.	[ˌgʷæʰtənə ˌhainjə ˈruaʲ]	NF720018	231 O	OR
Geirum Beag If the first element was related to the ON male personal name ‘Geirr’, then it would require an s-genitive. Another possible meaning is ‘goat island’, deriving from ON geit. However, the loss of the /t/ cannot be satisfactorily explained. The generic is based on ON holmr, m, ‘island’. The meaning remains uncertain.	[ˌgʷeːrum ˈbøk]	NL551813	260 I	OS

- Geirum Mór** [ˌɡeɪrʊm ˈmoːr] NL548812 260 I OS*
 1654 Gerum, 1823 Gharum, 1865 Horse I.
 Alias: Horse Island
 See Geirum Beag.
- Geo Frois** [ˌɡjɔː ˈfrɔɪ] NF644020 231 W OS
gully of the shower
 A combination of G geòdha, m, a loan from ON gjá, f, 'gully' and frois, the gen. case of G fras, f, 'shower', 'seed'.
- Geodhachan** [ˌɡjɔːxən] NL564818 260 W OS*
place of gullies
 1823 Geochan, 1865 Greoachan, 1901 Geochan
 See An Geòdha. The OS location of this name at NL568819 is incorrect. The NGR given here is the corrected entry.
- Gighay** [ˈɡɪvəɪ] NF765048 231 I OS*
Gyða's island
 1549 Gighay, 1794 Giga, 1823 Gighay, 1824 Gigha, 1845 Gighay, 1846 Gigha I., 1848 Giga I., 1854 Gigha, 1865 Gighay
 Henderson suggests 'god island' as a possible meaning (Henderson, 1910:63), but also provides an alternative based on the ON personal name Gyða. Borgstrøm, however, anticipating that Henderson meant the Christian God, emphasizes that before 1000 A.D. the Norwegians were pagan (Campbell, 1936:290), so a derivation from a personal name seems more likely.
- Gilinish** [ˈɡɪlɪnɪʃ] NL554814 260 R OR
cleft headland
 A combination of ON gil, n, 'cleft' and ON nes, n, 'headland'
- Glac na Buidhe** [ˌɡlɑɪçkə ˈbʊɪʃ] NL683978 247 R OS*
hollow of yellow
 1823 Glacknabuie, 1865 Clach na Buidhe, 1901 Glachnabui
 Possibly some yellow dye could be obtained from this place.
- Glaic a' Bhainne** [ˌɡlɑɪçkə ˈvænɪʃ] NL703996 247 R OR
hollow of the milk
- Glaic a' Bhealaich** [ˌɡlɑɪçk ˈvealɔɪx] NF672018 231 R OR
hollow of the pass
- Glaic a' Bhòcain** [ˌɡlɑɪçkə ˈvɔːxkən] NF740027 231 R OR
hollow of the ghost
 A variation of this name is Glac nam Bocan as given by Jonathan MacNeil.
- Glaic a' Chragain Mhóir** [ˌɡlɑɪçkə ˌxragan ˈvoːr] NF698048 231 R ML
hollow of the big rocky place
 1823 Glaickachraganvore
- Glaic a' Ghunna** [ˌɡlɑɪçkə ˈɣʊnɔɪ] NF705023 231 R OR
hollow of the gun

G gunna, m + f, is a loan from MEng. gunne, ‘gun’.

Glaic a’ Mhuileann <i>hollow of the mill</i>	[.ḡlaiçkə 'vul'ɪn]	NF662032	231 R	OS
Glaic an Daimh <i>hollow of the bullock</i>	[.ḡlaiçkə 'd̪æv]	NF731010	231 R	OR
Glaic an Daimh <i>hollow of the bullock</i>	[.ḡlaiçkə 'd̪æv]	NL686998	247 R	OR
Glaic an Dìthein <i>hollow of the daisy</i>	[.ḡlaiçkə 'd̪i:ən]	NL695992	247 R	OR
Glaic an Dròibh <i>hollow of the drove of cattle</i>	[.ḡlaiçk 'd̪rɔɪ]	NF664016	231 R	OR
Glaic an t-Sleintean <i>hollow of the lintel</i>	[.ḡlaiçkə 'dlentʃən]	NL627984	247 R	OR
Glaic an t-Srutha <i>hollow of the current</i> An Sruth is a coastal feature.	[.ḡlaiçkən 'tʃru:ʰ]	NL655978	247 R	OR
Glaic Bàgh nam Feusgan <i>hollow of B.</i> See Bàgh nam Feusgan.	[.ḡlaiçk ˌb̪aɣnə'f̪eʊsgən]	NF710035	231 R	OR
Glaic Mheallt’ <i>hollow of deception</i> G meallt is an old gen. form of mealladh, ‘deception’, ‘seduction’. See Bogha Glaic Mheallt’.	[.ḡlaiçk 'vɛlt]	NF736026	231 R	OR
Glaic Mhurchaidh Ruaidh <i>hollow of Red Murdoch</i>	[.ḡlaiçk ˌvuruxi 'Ruəʲ]	NF652000	231 R	OR
Glaic na Bà Ruaidh <i>hollow of the red cow</i>	[.ḡlaiçknə ˌb̪a: 'Ruəʲ]	NF731011	231 R	OR
Glaic na Gaoithe <i>hollow of the wind</i>	[.ḡlaiçknə 'ḡuiʃ]	NF699009	231 R	OR
Glaic na Mòna <i>hollow of the peat</i>	[.ḡlaiçknə 'mɔ:ɳɔ]	NF719027	231 R	OR
Glaic na Sgeine <i>hollow of the knife</i>	[.ḡlaiçknə 'skɛnʲə]	NL626945	247 R	OR
Glaic nam Basadairean <i>hollow of the overgrown holes</i> Fr. Allan McDonald describes G basadair as ‘a hole in soft ground covered by moss with water running underneath’. Sheep and cattle are often lost in these places (McDonald, 1958:39).	[.ḡlaiçknəm 'b̪asdɛrən]	NL636978	247 R	OR

Glaic nam Basadairean <i>hollow of the overgrown holes</i>	[.ḡlaiçknəm 'b̥asɔɛrən]	NL653978	247 R	OR
Glaic nam Bocan <i>hollow of the little billy-goats</i>	[.ḡlaiçknəm 'b̥oxkan]	NF699051	231 R	OR
Glaic nan Each <i>hollow of the horses</i> 1823 Glacknaneach, 1878 Glac nan Each	[.ḡlaiçknə 'næx]	NF752043	231 R	ML
Glaic-choinnich <i>Kenneth's hollow</i> 1823 Glacknaconich The 1823 form shows that in origin we are dealing with Glaic na Chòinnich, 'hollow of the moss'. The shortening of /xɔ:niç/ to /xɔNiç/ must be due to a misunderstanding.	[.ḡlaiçk 'xɔNiç]	NL670975	247 R	OS*
Glaseilean <i>grey-green island</i> 1823 Glashellan A combination of the G adj. glas, 'grey-green', and G eilean, m, a loan from ON eyland, related to øy, f, 'island'.	[.ḡlas,el'ɛN]	NF716046	231 I	ML
Glassgeir <i>grey-green sunken rock</i> 1823 Glassker Alias: Bogha nan Sgeirean Móra G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, 'skerry'.	[.ḡlask'er']	NF740050	231 U	OS*
Gleann Beag <i>little valley</i> 1823 Glenbeg	[.ḡl'ɛuN 'b̥ək]	NL678985	247 R	ML
Gleann Chraobhag <i>valley of the small bushes</i> John Archibald MacDonald locates this place-name at NF702012.	[.ḡl'ɛuN 'x'rʌ:vak]	NF696006	231 R	OR
Gleann Dorcha <i>dark valley</i> 1823 Glendorach	[.ḡl'ɛuN 'd̥ɔrɔxɔ]	NF697025	231 R	ML
Gleann na Cailliche <i>valley of the old woman</i>	[.ḡl'ɛuNə 'k'aliçə]	NL632985	247 R	OR
Gleann-Mór <i>big valley</i>	[.ḡl'ɛuN 'mo:r]	NL647909	247 R	OS
Glen Bretadale <i>steep (?) valley</i> 1823 Glenbrecuidale The second part of the name is a combination of the ON adj. brattr, 'steep' and ON dalr, m, 'valley', which matches the geographical layout of the place. The letter 'c' in the historic form, however, points at a possible relation with the Skye place-name Bracadale.	[.ḡl'ɛuN 'brætadel]	NL626990	247 R	OS*

Glenlots Alias: Rhue, Rubha nam Boc		NL668982	247 R	OR
Gob Àird Ghrinn <i>point of A.</i> Alias: Gob Greian Head Gob Aird Ghrinn applies only to the very point of Greian Head.	[.gop ,ɑ:ɾd 'gʁi:n]	NF646049	231 R	OR
Gob Àird Mhithinish <i>point of A.</i> See Ardveenish.	[.gop ,ɑ:ɾd 'vĩ:niʃ]	NF719032	231 R	OR
Gob Allt Eathasdail <i>point of A.</i> See Allt Eathasdail.	[.gop ,ault 'ɛ:əsðəl]	NL641976	247 R	OR
Gob an Eilein <i>point of the island</i> See Glaseilean.	[.gopə 'nel'ɛn]	NL694986	247 R	OR
Gob an Rubha <i>point of the headland</i>	[.gop 'Ruʃ]	NF665050	231 R	OR
Gob an Rubha Ghlais <i>point of R.</i> See Rubha Glas.	[.gop ,Ru 'ɣlas]	NL651974	247 R	OR
Gob an Rubha Léitheadh <i>point of the R.</i> See An Rubha Liath.	[.gopəN ,Ruə 'leħəɾ]	NF718012	231 R	OR
Gob an Rubha Mhóir <i>point of the R.</i> See Rubha Mór.	[.gopəN ,Ruə 'mo:ɾ]	NL700978	247 R	OR
Gob an t-Seór <i>point of the shore</i> Seor is the gaelicized version of Eng. shore. “‘Shore’, that’s what it means. It is just a recent building that was there. That is just another place where they brought in the boats alongside the shore. And they did not cure herring there, but they cured fish. Salted ling. And they dried it on the rock.” Donald Lawrence MacNeil.	[.gopəN 'tʃɔ:ɾ]	NF725022	231 R	OR
Gob Chiall <i>point of C.</i> See Chiall.	[.gop 'çi:əl]	NF709065	231 R	OR
Gob Dhrolum <i>point of D.</i> See Drolum.	[.gop 'ɾɾɔlum]	NF726022	231 R	OR

Gob Eòsaig <i>Joe's point</i>	[.ḡop ɛ'ɔ:sak]	NL654982	247 R	OR
Gob Ghoiridh <i>Godfrey's point</i> Godfrey used to be a popular name in medieval times. Godred Crovan c.1050 was King of the Isle of Man.	[.ḡopə 'ḡɔ:ri]	NF721028	231 R	OR
Gob Hòraid <i>point of H.</i> See Bàgh Hòraid.	[.ḡop 'ho:ratʰ]	NL694973	247 R	OR
Gob Leithinis <i>point of L.</i> See Leanish.	[.ḡop 'læ:niʃ]	NL700985	247 R	OR
Gob na Beinne <i>point of the mountain</i> This primary name is related to Sloc Gob na Beinne. The mountain in question is Beinn Bheag in Vatersay.	[.ḡopnə bən'əɹ]	NL614968	247 R	OR
Gob na Creige <i>point of the rock</i>	[.ḡopnə 'k'rekʃ]	NL656974	247 R	OR
Gob na Cuidhe Duibhe <i>point of the dark enclosure</i> See A' Chuidh' Dhubh.	[.ḡopə ,xuɪə 'ɹuə]	NF646016	231 R	OR
Gob Orosaigh <i>point of O.</i> See Orosay.	[.ḡop 'ɔ:ɔ-ɔsəi]	NL643973	247 R	OR
Gob Port na Cille <i>point of P.</i> 1901 Port na Killa See Port na Cille.	[.ḡo ,pɔʃtnə 'k'ilʃ]	NF649016	231 R	OR
Gob Ruairidh Iain Mhóir <i>point of Roderick (son of) Big John</i>	[.ḡop ,Ruəri ,i:aĩN 'vo:r]	NF717010	231 R	OR
Gob Rubha na h-Acarsaid <i>point of R.</i> See Rubha na h-Acairseid.	[.ḡop ,Runə 'haxkiʃatʃ]	NF736012	231 R	OR
Gob Sgurabhail <i>point of S.</i> This name is located further north east than the OS entry Scurrival Point. See Scurrival.	[.ḡop 'skuɹɪvəl]	NF700096	231 R	OR
Gob Sheumais Annaig <i>point of James of Anna</i> The point was named after James MacNeil who used to tie up his boat there.	[.ḡop 'he:miʃ 'anək]	NL655980	247 R	OR

Goirtean 'ic an t-Saoir <i>MacIntyre's field</i> Alias: Goirtean 'ic Phàil	[.ḡɔɾʃtjəniçkəN 't'ʌ:r]	NL645925	247 F	OR
Goirtean 'ic Eachainn <i>field of Hector's son</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjəniçk 'ɛaxəN]	NL689944	247 F	OR
Goirtean 'icPhàil <i>MacPhail's field</i> Alias: Goirtean 'ic an t-Saoir	[.ḡɔɾʃtjəniçk 'fā:l]	NL645925	247 F	OR
Goirtean a Tuath <i>northern enclosure</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjənə 't'uð]	NF707011	231 F	OR
Goirtean Eachainn <i>Hector's enclosure</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjən ɛ'axəN]	NF727007	231 E	OR
Goirtean Eòrna <i>barley field</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjən ɛ'ɔ:RNɔ̃]	NF637003	231 F	OR
Goirtean Iain <i>John's enclosure</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjən 'i:aĩN]	NF714038	231 F	OR
Goirtean Mór a' Ghlinne <i>big field of the valley</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjən ,mɔ:rə 'ḡlinɔ̃]	NL669986	247 F	OR
Goirtean na Lice <i>field of the flagstone</i>	[.ḡɔɾʃtjənə 'L'icʰə]	NL676998	247 F	OR
Goirtein <i>enclosure</i> 1764 Gorten G goirtean, m, related to Lat. hortus and Eng. garden.	[.ḡɔɾʃtjən]	NL635982	247 S	OS*
Graveyard	['gre:vjard]	NF763048	231 O	OR
Grean 1764 Green, 1806 -, 1806 North Green, 1807 South Green, 1827 Grin This name may be derived either from OIr. grían, 'sun', meaning 'sunny spot', or from the ON adj. grœnn, 'green', meaning 'green spot'.	['ḡriəN]	NF672037	231 S	OS*
Greanamul <i>green island</i> 1549 Gigarun?, 1654 Grialum, 1794b Creanmul, 1823 Grianimull, 1854 Grianimul, 1865 Grianameal, 1945 Greanamul In this name the first element is likely to be derived from ON grœnn, 'green'. The generic originates in ON múli, m, 'headland', 'large rock, surrounded by the sea'.	['ḡriəNəmul]	NL620898	260 I	OS*
Greanamul <i>green island</i>	['ḡriəNəmul]	NF735055	231 I	OS*

1823 Grainumull, 1865 Grianameal, 1874-, 1933-, 1945 Greanamul
See Greanamul.

Green Island ['grɪn 'aɪlənd] NL545825 260 I AD
1865 -, 1878 Eilean Uaine
Alias: Arnamul, An t-Eilean Uaine

Greian Head [ˌɡrɪən 'hed] NF646049 231 R OS*
point of the sunny eminence
1823 Ard Ghrinn, 1865 Greian Head
Alias: Gob Àird Ghrinn
See Grean.

Greian Head Cottage [ˌɡrɪən 'hed ˌkɒtɪdʒ] NF656048 231 S OS
cottage of G.
See Grean.

Greòtal [ˌɡrɪ'ɔːtəl] NF654010 231 R OR
gravel mound
Alias: An Craobhan
A combination of ON grjótt, n, 'gravel', 'stone', and ON hóll, f, 'mound'.

Greòtal [ˌɡrɪ'ɔːtəl] NL591871 260 R OR
gravel mound
1823 Greotas
A variation of this name, Na Greotan, is given for NGR NL593869. It is likely to apply to the same place. ON grjótt, n, 'gravel', is a popular element in Norwegian place-names. See Greòtal. See also Stemshaug, 1976:133)

Grianan [ˌɡrɪənən] NF678045 231 R OR
See Grean.

Grianan [ˌɡrɪənən] NF681016 231 R OS*
1865 Grianan
See Grean.

Gronais Beag [ˌɡronɪʃ 'bɛk] NL568796 260 R ML
small G.
1823 Gronishveg
See Gronish.

Gronish [ˌɡronɪʃ] NL559797 260 R AD
1865 -
The generic derives from ON nes, f, 'headland'. The specific may be related to either ON gróðr, m, 'vegetation', ON grof, 'pit', 'deep sea' or to the ON adj. gróf, 'rough'.

Gruagach [ˌɡruagəx] NF697101 216 R OS*
the maiden / the one with hair
1823 -
Gruagach designates a sea rock. The hair in the above translation is certain to be a metaphor for seaweed. The OS location is wrong. The NGR here given has been handed down by reliable local informants.

- Guala na h-Ighne** [ˈɡuələ nə ˈhĩːNʲə] NF684003 231 R OR
corner/shoulder of the girl
- Gualann Bheag** [ˈɡuələN ˈvæk] NF667005 231 R OR
little shoulder
- Gualann Bhuidhe** [ˈɡuələN ˈvuiʃ] NF669007 231 R OR
yellow shoulder
 Malcolm MacKinnon locates this name at NF669007.
- Guarsay** [ˈɡuasəi] NL553842 260 R ML
 1823 Gnursay, 1865 Gnursay Point
 This name applies to the entire peninsula. The generic is derived from ON øy, f, ‘island’, and in this context means ‘peninsula’. The specific is obscure.
- Guarsay Beag** [ˈɡuasəi ˈbæk] NL552844 260 R OS
small G.
 See Guarsay.
- Guarsay Mór** [ˈɡuasəi ˈmoːr] NL550842 260 R OS
big G.
 See Guarsay.
- Gunamul** [ˈɡuNəmul] NL547824 260 I OS
stick island (?)
 McDonald lists this name as Gonamul (McDonald, 1958:288). The name may be derived from ON gandr, m, for ‘stick’ and ON múli, m, ‘sturdy rock surrounded by sea’.
- Gunnairigh** [ˈɡuNaɾi] NF707006 231 F OR
Gunnar’s shieling
 A combination of the ON personal name for males Gunnarr and G àirigh, f, ‘shieling’.
- Halaman Bay** [ˈhaləman ˌbeː] NF646006 231 W OS
half moon bay
 This place-name is likely to include a strongly contracted version of ON half-manaðr, m, ‘half moon’. See Tràigh na Halman.
- Halaman Skerry** [ˈhaləman ˌskerɪ] NF644006 231 I OS*
half moon skerry
 1823 Skernahalaman
 Alias: Sgeir na Halman
 See Halaman Bay.
- Halfway House** [ˈhɑːfwe ˈhaus] NL705996 247 S OR
 Nowadays property of the Hatcher family, this house marks the exact midpoint of the journey between Bruernish and Castlebay and was therefore called ‘Halfway House’ by the Bruernish people.
- Hamhsdal** [ˈhausdəl] NL632954 247 R OR
skull / round mountain valley

This name occurs in the secondary name Bruach Hamhsdail but is not used on its own. The generic is possibly an ON dalr-name. The specific may derive from ON hauss designating a 'mountain top' or a 'skull shaped rock'. Its prime location on the fertile island of Vatersay would support this argument.

Hanisgeir ['haniŋk'er'] NF649046 231 I OR
skerry of the cockerel

Cox lists Thanasgeir, a cluster of seven skerries in Lewis (see Cox, 1987 II:225, and Oftedal, 1976:28). A combination of ON hani, m, 'cockerel' and ON sker, n, 'skerry'.

Harbour ['harbər] NL633968 247 W OS

Hartaval ['he:ʃtjəvəl] NF682001 231 R OS*
mountain of the horse(s)

1823 Harstivall, 1901 Harstavall

Here the OS spelling and the local pronunciation differ remarkably. More credibility should be given to local oral sources. Cox (1987 II:227) lists Theastabhal, a derivation from ON Heistafjall with ON hestr, m, 'horse', and ON fjall, n, 'mountain'.

Heaval ['he:əvəl] NL678994 247 R OS*
high mountain

1823 Heavall, 1865 Bein Eaval

Although Borgstrøm emphasizes that he does not consider the derivation from ON adj. hár, 'high', as certain (see Campbell, 1936:292), the name describes the highest mountain in the Barra group and would match this designation.

Hecla ['he:hk'ɫʃ] NL558823 260 R OS*
high mountain

1823 Heclavore, 1865 Hecla

This name appears to be directly imported from Iceland where Hecla is the name of a high mountain. It contains the ON adj. hár, 'high' and ON klett, m, 'mountain'. The MacLean map of 1823 indicates the existence of Heclaveg and Heclavore.

Hecla Point ['he:hk'ɫa 'point] NL571823 260 R OS*
point of H.
1865 -
See Hecla.

Heilem ['he:ələm] NF736006 231 I OS*
1823 Faihlum, 1874 Heilam

The generic is certainly derived from ON holmr, m, 'small island'. The specific may be connected with an ON personal name such as Helgi or Heðinn, both of which were productive before AD 1000. An alternative derivation from ON heið, f, 'heather' is possible.

Heillanish ['hæɫənɪʃ] NL632935 247 R OS*
1823 Toraynish, 1901 Tora Vinish

The name may derive from the ON male personal name Helge or from the ON adj. heilag, 'holy'. A third possibility is a derivation from the ON adj. heill, 'well', 'complete', 'lucky'. The generic stems from ON nes, n, 'headland'. There are places called Helgenes and Helnes in Norway.

- Heishival Beag** [ˈheːʃɪvəlˈvæk] NL641962 247 R OS
small mountain of the horses
 1823 Heishivalveg
 According to local inhabitants the OS located this feature incorrectly at NGR NL636961. The correct NGR is NL641962. The name is likely to be a derivation from ON Heistafjall with ON hestr, m, 'horse', and ON fjall, n, 'mountain'.
- Heishival Mór** [ˈheːʃɪvəlˈvoːr] NL626964 247 R OS
large mountain of the horses
 1823 Heishivalvore
 This place-name has been both misspelt and misplaced by the OS at NL625964. The correct form is given in the NGR field. For derivation see Heishival Bheag.
- Heisker** [ˈheːʃkˈerʲ] NL573867 260 I OS*
flagstone skerry
 1654 Heyskyra, 1846 Heisker, 1865 Hesker
 Alias: Outer Heisker, Sgeir nan Ròn
 The name is probably derived from ON hella, f, 'flagstone' and ON sker, n, 'skerry'. Cox's derivation of Theisgeir from ON heið (Cox, 1987:227) is not applicable, as this skerry has neither heather nor peat, nor any other obvious signs of vegetation.
- Hellisay** [ˈhælasɛi] NF757041 231 I OS*
cave island
 1549 Hettesay, 1654 Hildesay, 1764 Hellisay, 1794a Keillesay, 1794b Hellesa, 1806 Helesay, 1824 Hellesa, 1845 Hellisay, 1848 Hetesay I., 1854 Helesa, 1865 Hellisay
 There are a number of caves on the island, so a derivation from ON hellir, m, 'caves' and ON øy, f, 'island' is almost certain.
- Higgins Cottage** [ˈhɪɡɪns ˌkɒtɪdʒ] NF662028 231 S OR
 This house used to be the summer residence of Peggy Angus who was one of the leading figures in the Arts and Crafts movement.
- Hilibric** [ˈhiːləbrɪkʲ] NF681020 231 R OR
slope of ?
 The generic is derived from ON brekka, f, 'slope'. The specific remains opaque. Father Allan McDonald, however, identifies a hill called *Hilibrick* on Mingulay possibly located at the south side of the village. (See appendix A, name 101).
- Himalisgeir** [ˈhɪmɪlɪskˈerʲ] NF651036 231 I ML
skerry of ?
 1823 Himilisker
 A variation is Himelasgeir. Marwick lists Himera Geo in Orkney and relates it to G iomaire, m, 'ridge' or 'field'. The generic is derived from ON sker, n, 'skerry'. The derivation of the specific remains uncertain.
- Hintish Bay** [ˈhɪntɪʃ ˈbeː] NF763037 231 W OS
 The first part of this name remains obscure.
 Alias: Bàgh Chàrais
- Hogh Beag** NL598875 260 R SH

small hill

1901 Hoe Beg

See The Hoe.

Holisgeir	['hɔlɪʃk'er]	NL625981	247 I	OR
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skerry of ?

Alias: Sgeir Holisgeir, Bogha Ruadh a-staigh

It is uncertain whether the specific contains ON hóll, f, 'mound' or an ON personal name.

The generic is ON sker, n, 'island'.

Hornish	['hɔŋɪʃ]	NF734097	231 R	OS
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corner headland

1901 Ru Horish

A combination of ON horn, n, 'corner' and ON nes, n, 'headland'. There is a place called Hornnes in Norway (see Rygh, 1898:57).

Hornish Rocks	['hɔŋɪʃ 'rɔks]	NF727092	231 R	AD
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rocks of H.

1874 -

See Hornish.

Horough	[nə 'hɔrəʊ]	NL657970	247 S	OS
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pile of stones

This name derives from ON hǫrgr, m, 'pile of stones', usually indicating an important site of heathen worship (Rygh, 1898:58).

Horse Island	['hɔrs ,aɪlənd]	NL548812	260 I	AD
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Alias: Geirum Mór

Hotel	[ho'tel]	NF649007	231 S	OS
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Huilish Beg	[,hu:lɪʃ 'bɛk]	NL623937	247 R	OS
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small + ?

The name may be a derivaton from ON hóll, m, 'mound' and ON nes, n, 'headland' and have undergone the process of assimilation. The derivation is not certain.

Huilish More	[,hu:lɪʃ 'mɔ:r]	NL620948	247 R	OS
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big + ?

The name may be a derivaton from ON hóll, m, 'mound' and ON nes, n, 'headland' and have undergone the process of assimilation. The derivation is not certain.

Huilish Point	[,hu:lɪʃ 'pɔɪnt]	NL617950	247 R	OS*
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point of H.

1823 Stronascaiba, 1901 Hailishoove

The historical form of Hailishoove was first recorded in 1823 as Haillishoove. It is not certain whether Huilish Point and Haillishoove are located on the same site. Haillishoove is listed in appendix A name 78 where its approximate location is shown. See Huilish Beg.

Humula	['humulə]	NL652908	247 R	OR
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pebbly beach

Humula originates from ON hǫmull, m, 'layer of pebbles' or 'beach stone'. The 'a' in the final position cannot be accounted for.

Inner Heisker <i>inner flagstone skerry</i> 1901 Inner Hesker Alias: Na Dubh Sgeirean Borgstrøm derives the name from ON hellu-sker, 'flagstone skerry' (Campbell, 1936:294). Sommerfelt finds this derivation improbable. Cox lists the name Theisker which he derives from ON heið, f, 'heath' and sker, n, 'skerry'. Arne Kruse emphasizes that skerries in the ON sense of the word do not show any signs of vegetation. The meaning 'flagstone skerry' appears to be the most likely choice.	[ˈinər ˈheːʃkʰərʰ]	NL585867	260 I	OS
Inner Oitir Mhór <i>inner large sandbank</i> 1874 Inner Otter Vore	[ˈinər ˌɔxtʰir ˈvoːr]	NF715055	231 R	AD
Innis Bhàn <i>white meadow</i>	[ˌiːɪʃ ˈvāːn]	NF669038	231 R	OR
Innisgeir <i>harbour skerry</i> 1865 Inisgeir Possibly a derivation from ON hofn, f, 'harbour', and ON sker, n, 'skerry'. See discussion on Ainnsgeir (Cox, 1987:3).	[ˌiːɪʃkʰerʰ] also [ˌɛnɪʃkʰerʰ]	NL664972	247 I	AD
Iodhlann Mór a' Mhaoir <i>big enclosure of the ground officer</i>	[ˌilən ˈmoːrə ˈvɑːr]	NL652982	247 R	OR
Iodhlann a' Chaolais <i>enclosure of Jessie of the Sound</i>	[ˌilən ʃɛsiə ˈxɑːlɪʃ]	NL654982	247 R	OR
Iomaire a' Phuill Mòna <i>rig of the peat moss</i>	[ˌimərə ˈfulˈmoːNɔ̃]	NF714018	231 R	OR
Iomaire Mhór <i>big rig of land</i>	[ˌimərə ˈvoːr]	NF658027	231 F	OR
Iron Hut	[ˌairn ˈhʌt]	NL665984	247 S	SH
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL634975	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL636947	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL646947	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL648963	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL658958	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈʤeti]	NL665980	247 O	OS

Jetty	[ˈdʒeti]	NL694986	247 O	OS
Jetty	[ˈdʒeti]	NF706031	231 O	OS
Kentangaval <i>head of the mountain of the promontory</i> 1805 Kentanguall, 1901 Kentanguall A combination of G ceann, m, ‘top’, ‘end’, ‘point’, ON tangi, m, ‘promontory’ and ON fjall, n, ‘mountain’. Kentangaval consists of a number of small settlement areas which a local lists as Cnoc Fhraoich (Heather Hill), An Goirtean Buidhe and Kinloch.	[kˈenˈtʌŋgaval]	NL656988	247 S	OS*
Keromadal The first two syllables of this name look like the G land measurement ceathramh, ‘quarter’.	[kˈerumadal]	NL566798	260 W	OS
Kerr Patch 1901-	[kærˌpatʃ]	NL651930	247 W	AD
Kilbar <i>church of St. Finnbarr</i> 1549 Killbare, 1654 Kilbarra, 1695 Kilbarr village, 1794a Kilbar, 1805 Kilbarra, 1824 Kilbar, 1846 Killbar, 1848 Kilbart, 1865 Kilbar As the other old names for chapels in Barra are associated with saints, it is likely that this name, too, is dedicated to a saint (for more information on St. Finnbarr see Macquarrie, 1989:29).	[kilˈbar]	NF704075	231 S	AD*
Kinloch <i>head of the loch</i> 1826 Kenloch	[kinˈlɔx]	NL651994	247 S	OS*
Kisimul <i>rock of the small bay</i> 1549 Kiselnin, 1695 Kisimul The specific is unlikely to derive from the ON personal name Kisi which Lind (1915) classifies as a manipulated medieval name. Allan McDonald (1903) provides the essential clue by giving Ciasmul as an alternative spelling which leads to the derivation from ON kjóss, m, ‘small bay’ and ON múli, m, ‘headland’, here ‘sea-rock’. Kisimul provides an accurate geographic setting for this derivation.	[kˈiəsəmul] also [kˈiʃmul]	NL665979	247 R	OS*
Kisimul Bay <i>bay of K.</i> 1823 Kiessimul Bay Alias: Castle Bay See Kisimul.	[kˈiʃmulˈbe:]	NL664977	247 A	ML
Kisimul Castle <i>castle of K.</i> 1654 Chastel Kyslum, 1794b Castle Chisamil, 1823 Kiessimull Castle, 1845 Kisimul Castle, 1846 Kiessimul Castle, 1848 Chisamul Castle, 1865 Chisamil Castle, 1987 Kiessimul Castle Alias: A’ Steinn See Kisimul.	[kˈiʃmulˈka:sl]	NL665979	247 A	OS*

Knock Noddimull <i>hill of the headland of the sign</i> 1823 Knockodinill The first element is the anglicized version of G cnoc, m, 'hill' or 'eminence'. The second element may correspond to ON nóti, m, 'sign', 'mark' and ON múli, m, 'large headland', 'rock'. The derivation of the embedded primary name is uncertain.	[k'rɔ̃xk 'nɔdimul]	NL634912	247 R	OS*
Lag a' Choin Duibh <i>hollow of the black dog</i>	[.lakə 'xɔn 'd̪u ^h]	NF676046	231 R	OR
Lag a' Choire <i>hollow of the kettle</i>	[.lakə 'xɔrɔ̃]	NL633945	247 R	OR
Lag a' Choire <i>hollow of the kettle</i> Nan MacKinnon locates this place-name at NL627967.	[.lakə 'xɔrɔ̃]	NL626961	247 R	OR
Lag an Fhéidh <i>hollow of the deer</i>	[.lakə 'Nje:]	NF663021	231 R	OR
Lag an Fheòir <i>hollow of the hay</i>	[.lakə 'Njɔ:r]	NL666990	247 R	OR
Lag an Fhlíodh <i>chickweed hollow</i>	[.lak 'liu:]	NF640000	231 R	OR
Lag an Fhlíodh <i>chickweed hollow</i>	[.lak 'liu:]	NF676027	231 R	OR
Lag Cuidhe Bheag a' Bhuntàta <i>hollow of the small enclosure of the potatoes</i> See Cuidhe Bheag a' Bhuntàta.	[.lak 'kuia 'vøkə 'mənɔ̃d'ɑ:tɔ̃]	NF640002	231 R	OR
Lag Dhaoimean <i>Diamond's hollow</i> 'Diamond' was the name of a horse belonging to the MacKinnons of Scurrival. G daoimean, m, is a loan from Eng. diamond.	[.lakə 'g̊ɔimən]	NF698095	231 R	OR
Lag nan Cnàimh <i>hollow of the bones</i>	[.laknən 'k'rē:v]	NF656006	231 R	OR
Lag nan Laogh <i>hollow of the calves</i> This primary name is related to Tobar Lag nan Laogh.	[.laknən 'Lʌɣ]	NL693994	247 R	OR
Lag Rosie <i>hollow of Rosie</i> Rosie was the name of a horse.	[.lak 'ro:si]	NF662030	231 R	OR
Lagdruiseach	[.lak 'd̪ruifax]	NL663985	247 S	OS6''

thorny hollow

The specific perhaps derives from the G adj. *driseach*, ‘thorny’. This name designates the northern part of what is nowadays known as Castlebay.

Làimhrig [ˈlāmrig] NL648940 247 W OR

landing-place

G *làimhrig*, f, a loan from ON *hlað-hamarr*, ‘slope rock’, describing a ‘landing-place’. Dwelly lists also the alternative spelling *lamraig*.

Làimhrig [ˈlāmrig] NF704101 216 W ML

landing-place

1823 Portantrumpan

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig [ˈlāmrig] NL548838 260 W OR

landing-place

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig [ˈlāmrig] NL662984 247 W OR

landing-place

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig a’ Ghiomaich [ˌlāmrigə ˈjimiç] NL656977 247 W OR

landing-place of the lobster

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig Ailig Bhig [ˌlāmrig ˌelˈek ˈvik] NL654981 247 W OR

Small Alec’s landing-place

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig an Dògaidh [ˌlāmrigən ˈd̪ōːgəɪ] NL624992 247 W OR

landing-place of the docking

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig an Sgadain [ˌlāmrigən ˈskˈadan] NL655980 247 W OR

landing-place of the herring

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig Cille Bharra [ˌlāmrig ˈkʲilə ˈvaRa] NF714075 231 W OR

landing-place of C.

See Làimhrig and See Kilbar.

Làimhrig Eoghainn Néill [ˌlāmrig ˌeˈauɪN ˈn̪eːl] NL657983 247 W OR

Jonathan (of) Neil’s landing-place

See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig Fhlodaigh [ˌlāmrig ˈl̪odaʲ] NL614924 247 W OR

landing-place of F.

See Làimhrig and Flodday.

Làimhrig Holisgeir [ˌlāmrig ˈh̪olɪʃkˈer] NL626982 247 W OR

landing-place of H.

See Làimhrig and Holisgeir.

Làimhrig Ìomhair [ˌLāmrig ˈiəvər] NL655987 247 W OR
Ivor's landing-place
 See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig Mhaoil Dòmhnach [ˌLāmrig vɔlˈdɔːnɪç] NL685944 247 W OR
landing-place of M.
 See Làimhrig and Muldoanich.

Làimhrig na Craoibhe [ˌLāmrignə ˈkʳɑːv] NF761041 231 W OR
landing-place of the tree
 See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig na Mòna [ˌLāmrignə ˈmɔːNɔ] NF734008 231 W OR
landing-place of the peat
 See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig na Mòna [ˌLāmrignə ˈmɔːNɔ] NL607898 260 W OR
landing-place of the peat
 See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig na Sgotha [ˌLāmrignə skˈɔː] NF719012 231 W OR
landing-place of the skiff
 See Làimhrig. G sgoth, m, a loan from ON skúta, f, 'skiff', 'boat'.

Làimhrig nam Bràthan [ˌLāmrignəm ˈbrɑːhən] NF710032 231 W OR
landing-place of the quern-stones
 Local tradition has it that the MacNeil of Barra found out that his kinfolk were using their own mill to grind corn, instead of paying money to use his mill. Infuriated, he destroyed their mill and rolled the mill-stones into the sea. See Làimhrig.

Làimhrig nam Buntàta [ˌLāmrignəm ˈbʊndɑːtɔ] NL650974 247 W OR
landing-place of the potatoes
 See Làimhrig. G buntàta, m, is related to Eng. potato.

Làimhrig nam Mart [ˌLāmrignə ˈmaʃt] NL634978 247 W AD
landing-place of the cows
 1865 Cattle Point
 See Làimhrig. This was the place the cows traditionally landed after having swum across the Sound of Vatersay. The causeway put an end to that practice.

Làimhrig Pheadair Ruairidh [ˌLāmrig ˌfædir ˈRuəri] NL655980 247 W OR
Peter (of) Roderick's landing-place
 See Làimhrig.

Lamalum [ˈlamaLum] NF728034 231 I OS*
lamb island

1654 -, 1823 Ellendmore, 1874 Lamalum

A combination ON lamb, n, 'lamb' and ON holmr, m, 'island'.

Lamalum Beag [ˌlamalʊm ˈbɛk] NF728030 231 I OR
small L.
 See Lamalum.

Landing Place [ˈlandɪŋ ˌpleɪs] NL556807 260 W AD
 1823 -, 1865 -

Landing Place [ˈlandɪŋ ˌpleɪs] NL610873 260 W ML
 1823 -

Landing Place [ˈlandɪŋ ˌpleɪs] NL567828 260 W ML
 1823 -, 1865 -

Lanish NL602883 260 R SH
 The pronunciation of this name is uncertain. It corresponds with Sròn Lithinis located at its north end.

Leaba nan Aigheann NL564794 260 W OS6"***
Heifer's bed
 1865 Heifer's Bed
 Alias: Heifer's Bed
 The pronunciation points towards the possible form Leabaidh nan Éiginn, 'bed of the disasters'. The place is located at the steep and dangerous southern coast of Berneray.

Leabaidh 'ic a Phì [ˌlʲæʰpɪçkə ˈfɪː] NL564839 260 R OR
MacPhee's bed

Leabaidh Dhòmhnail [ˌlʲæʰpə ˌɔ̃-əlˈvurəxi] NF699000 231 R OR
Mhurchaidh
Donald (of) Murdoch's bed

Leabaidh MhicIain [ˌlʲæʰpɪçkə ˈiːaɪ̃N] NF697085 231 R OR
Johnston's bed

Leabaidh na Béiste Duibhe [ˌlʲæʰpənə ˌbɛːftʲə ˈɖʊjɔ̃] NL648976 247 R OR
bed of the otter

Leabaidh na Ceastaig [ˌlʲæʰpənə ˈkæʃtak] NF667036 231 R OR
bed of the little sheep

Leabaidh nan Corra [ˌlʲæʰpənə ˈŋɔ̃Rɔ̃] NL656975 247 R OR
bed of the herons

Leac a' Chroigein [ˌlʲæxkə ˈxrɔ̃gain] NL676992 247 R OR
flagstone of the little earthen dish

Leac an Dosain [ˌlʲæxkə ˈɖɔ̃sain] NF650046 231 R OR
flagstone of the little bush

Alias: Na Leacan Dubha

Leac an Dùin Bhriste [ˌl'æxkə ˌnduːn 'vriʃtjɔ̃] NL549806 260 R OR
flagstone of the broken fort
 See Dùn Briste.

Leac an Langaich [ˌl'æxkənˈl'angɪç] NL562806 260 R OS
flagstone of the common guillemot

Leac Domaidh [ˌl'æxk 'dɔmi] NL653984 247 R OR
Dominic's flagstone

Leac Móir Uidhistich [ˌl'æxk ˌmoir 'ujʃtiç] NF654035 231 R OR
flagstone of Morag from Uist

Leac na Fala [ˌl'æxk nə 'falɔ̃] NL557807 260 R OS
flagstone of the cliff
 The specific is related to G palla, a loan from ON pallr, m, 'ledge', 'cliff' as the place is located at the cliff of the northern shore of Berneray. Therefore a translation as 'flagstone of the blood' is unlikely.

Leac na Guala [ˌl'æxknə 'ɡuəlɔ̃] NL650907 247 R OR
flagstone of the shoulder

Leac Naisg [ˌl'æxkə 'Nesk] NL654982 247 R OR
flagstone of N.
 See Nask.

Leac nan Dòrn [ˌl'æxk nən 'dɔːRŋ] NF711027 231 R OR
flagstone of the fists

Leac nan Leannan [ˌl'æxk nən 'l'janan] NF674048 231 R OR
flagstone of the lovers

Leac nan Seòlan [ˌl'æxk nə 'ʃɔːlən] NF712027 231 R OR
flagstone of the sails

Leac Réidh [ˌl'æxkə 'Reː] NF653050 231 R OR
smooth flagstone

Leac Shleamhainn [ˌl'æxk 'leãũin] NF718011 231 R OR
slippery flagstone

Leac Shleamhainn [ˌl'æxk 'leãũin] NL652974 247 R OR
slippery flagstone

Leac Slétta [ˌl'æxk sleːfə] NL555842 260 R OR
flagstone of the plain
 A combination of G leac, f, 'flagstone' and ON slétta, f, 'level piece of ground'. See Bay Sletta.

Leac Uaine <i>green flagstone</i> 1823 Leackuaina	[,L'æxk 'uɑN'ə]	NF772044	231 R	ML
Lèan' a' Chàilein <i>meadow of the seedling</i>	[,L'iana 'xɑ:Lain]	NF653003	231 F	OR
Lèan' a' Mhìn-Fhèoir 1823 Lianaviener <i>meadow of smooth grass</i>		NL638938	247 F	ML
Lèan' a' Mhinisteir <i>meadow of the minister</i> G ministear, m, a loan from Lat. minister, 'servant', here 'minister'.	[,L'ianə 'vɪnɪʃt̪ɪər]	NF670037	231 F	OR
Lèan' an Eich <i>meadow of the horse</i> A variation of this name is Lèan' nan Each.	[,L'ianə 'Neç]	NL663958	247 F	OR
Lèan' na Cuilce <i>meadow of reeds</i> 1823 Leananacuilchd	[,L'iana 'k'ul'çk]	NL641906	247 F	ML
Lèana Bean Iain <i>meadow of John's wife</i> Bean Iain was also known as Mrs. Ferguson.	[,L'iana ,bɛn 'i:aɪN]	NL620970	247 F	OR
Lèana Beinn Sgiodair <i>meadow of the mountain of the puddle</i>	[,L'iana bɛɪn 'sk'ɪdər]	NF658020	231 F	OR
Lèana Horgh <i>meadow of H.</i> See Horough.	[,L'iana hɔrəv]	NF704039	231 F	OR
Lèana Mhicheil Fhionnlaigh <i>Michael (of) Finlay's meadow</i>	[,L'iana vɪçəl 'ju:Ləɹ]	NL631970	247 F	OR
Leana Mhór <i>large meadow</i>	[,L'iana 'vo:r]	NF664005	231 R	OS
Leana na h-Eisgin 1823 Liananashesgan The correct G gen. form of Eng. 'eel' is 'easgainn'. Màiri Liz MacKinnon points out that the entry on the 1823 Maclean map should be translated as 'meadow of reeds', representing <i>Lèana nan Seasgan(n)</i> from G seasg, gen. case seisge and that the OS interpretation is based on a grammatical error.		NF675035	231 F	OS*
Lèana Shiar <i>west meadow</i>	[,L'iana 'hiar]	NF638002	231 F	OR

- Lèana Rochain** [ˈlʲiana ˈrɔxan] NL650976 247 F OR
Rochan's meadow
 'Rochan' is likely to be a personal name.
- Leanish** [ˈlæːNɪʃ] NL701989 247 S OS*
shelter headland
 1823 Laibmish, 1833 Lainish, 1901 Luibmish
 The generic is ON *nes*, *n*, 'headland'. A number of interpretation attempts have been made for the specific. The ON adj. *lang*, 'long', appears unlikely as there are longer headlands in the area. Borgstrøm suggests ON *loegir*, *m*, 'the sea', for 'headland with an anchoring place' (Campbell, 1936:291). A geographically possible derivation is from ON *hlið*, *f*, 'hill slope'. Cox suggests 'shelter point' from ON *hlið*, *f*, (Cox, 1987: 209) which is geographically correct and appears to be most likely.
- Leathad Beag Cùil a' Ghàraidh** [ˈlæ-ət ˈbøk ˈkʷ:ləˈgari] NL648984 247 R OR
little slope of the back of the dyke
 See Cùil a' Ghàraidh.
- Leathad na Cailliche** [ˈlæ-ətnə ˈkʷaliçə] NL691990 247 O OR
slope of the old woman
- Leathad na Faire Móire** [ˈlæ-ətnə ˈfærə ˈmo:rɔ̃] NF687021 231 R OR
slope of the good prospect
- Leathad nan Sìthean** [ˈlæ-ətnən ˈʃi:ən] NL555839 260 O OR
slope of the fairy hills
- Ledaig** [ˈlʲeːɖak] NL669979 247 S OS
little slope
 Ledaig is the diminutive form of G *leathad*, *m*, 'slope'.
- Leehinish** [ˈlʲiːiniʃ] NL651902 247 R OS*
shelter headland
 1823 Lechinish
 Alias: Sròn Litheinis
 See Leanish.
- Leigemul** [ˈlʲegəmul] NL665975 247 I OS*
 ? + *island*
 1865 Legumul, 1901 Legumol
 The first element is obscure, probably ON. The second element is a derivation from ON *múli*, *m*, 'headland', or here 'rock surrounded by water'.
- Leirval** [ˈlʲærval] NL670998 247 R OR
 The name may derive from ON *leirr*, *m*, 'clay' and ON *fjall*, *n*, 'mountain'. However, Henderson interprets the almost similar sounding name *Laiaval* in Uist as 'law field', from ON *laga* and ON *vǫllr*. The geography of the place does not provide a straightforward solution. There is a hill adjoined by a large, high-lying plain.

- Lianamul** [ˈliːənəmʊl] NL549837 260 I OS*
? + island
 1695 Linmull, 1823 Lianimull, 1901 North Green Island
 The first element is obscure. The second element is a derivation from ON *múli*, *m*, ‘headland’ or here ‘rock surrounded by water’.
- Liarach Taigh nan Sàileach** [ˈliːarax tˈøjnən ˈsɑ:lɔx] NF710019 231 OR
 The first element is uncertain. Taigh nan Sàileach means ‘the house of the people from Kintail’.
- Light House** [ˈlaɪt ˌhaus] NL548802 260 S AD
 1865 -
- Lighthouse Bay** [ˈlaɪt ˌhaus ˈbeɪ] NL550800 260 W AD
 1865 -, 1901 -
- Limheinis** [ˈlɪvənɪʃ] NF650015 231 R OR
shelter headland
 See Leanaish. Although located on an exposed part of the west coast, L. provides shelter for Tràigh Chaise.
- Lingay** [ˈlɪŋgeɪ] NL603897 260 I OS*
heather island
 1549 Lingay, 1654 Linga, 1764 Lingay, 1794b Linga I., 1823 Lingay, 1824 Longa, 1846 Lingay, 1848 Linga, 1854 -, 1865 Lingay
 A combination of ON *lyng*, *n*, ‘heather’ and ON *øy*, *f*, ‘island’.
- Lingay-Fhada** [ˈlɪŋgeɪ ˈadʃ] NF731037 231 I OS*
long heather island
 1654 Linga ad, 1901 Long Lingay
 A combination of ON *lyng*, *n*, ‘heather’, ON *øy*, *f*, ‘island’ and the G adj. *fada*, ‘long’.
- Little England** [ˈlɪtl ˈɪŋɡlənd] NF726014 231 S OR
 Alias: Bruernish
 There used to be many English-owned holiday homes in Bruernish and because of this the area acquired the nickname *Little England*.
- Loch a’ Mhuilinn Bhig** [ˌlɔxə ˌvʊlˈɪn ˈvɪk] NL675995 247 W OR
lake of the little mill
 There is no sign of a loch on the OS map at this location.
- Loch an Ail** [ˌlɔxən ˈɑɪ] NF716014 231 W OS*
lake of the rock (?)
 1823 Ln an ail, 1874 Loch an Aill
- Loch an Dùin** [ˌlɔxən ˈd̪uːn] NF694032 231 W OS
lake of the fort
- Loch an Dùin** [ˌlɔxən ˈd̪uːn] NF696034 231 S CR
lake of the fort

1823 Loch an Duine, 1824 Lochandunn

Loch an Eas Dhuibh <i>lake of the dark waterfall</i> Alias: Loch MhicLeòid, An Loch Mór, Loch Tangusdale, Loch St. Clair	[ˌLɔxə ˈNeɪs ˈɹui]	NL645988	247 W	OR
Loch an Eich Uisge <i>lake of the kelpie</i>	[ˌLɔxə ˌNeç ˈuɪkʃ]	NF682046	231 W	OR
Loch an Fheòir <i>lake of hay</i> Loch an Fheòir is a grass loch in summer.	[ˌLɔxə ˈNjɔɪr]	NF697022	231 W	OR
Loch an Rubha <i>lake of the point</i> Alias: Loch nan Lilies, Loch Scotageary, Loch nan Flùraichean	[ˌLɔxə ˈRuʃ]	NF710008	231 W	OR
Loch Beag Fhùaigh <i>little sea loch of F.</i> This inlet appears to be tidal. See Fuiay.	[ˌLɔx ˌbək ˈfu:iaɪ]	NF738026	231 W	OR
Loch Beag na Doirinn <i>little lake of the isthmus</i>	[ˌLɔx ˌbək nə ˈdɔ̃RLˈiN]	NF641003	231 W	OR
Loch Bean Iain <i>lake of John's wife</i>	[ˌLɔx ˌbɛn ˈi:aɪN]	NL623973	247 W	OR
Loch Bheinn an Lochain <i>lake of B.</i> See Beinn an Lochan.	[ˌLɔx ˌvøiNən ˈLɔxan]	NL642984	247 W	OR
Loch Cuilce <i>lake of reeds</i> 1823 Loch Cuilka	[ˌLɔx kˈuɫçk]	NF685043	231 W	OS*
Loch Dhòmhnaill a' Bhealaich <i>lake of Donald of the pass</i>	[ˌLɔx ˌɣɔ̃-ələ ˈvɛəlɔ̃x]	NL634974	247 W	OR
Loch MhicLeòid <i>MacLeod's lake</i> Alias: Loch St. Clair, Loch Tangusdale, Loch an Eas Dhuibhe, An Loch Mór	[ˌLɔx ˌviç ˈklɔ:tʰ]	NL645988	247 W	OR
Loch Mhicheil Fhionnlaigh <i>lake of Michael (of) Finlay</i>	[ˌLɔx ˌviçəlˈju:Ləɪ]	NL631974	247 W	OR
Loch na Beinne Bige <i>lake of the little mountain</i>	[ˌLɔxnə ˌbɛnˈə ˈbigə]	NL621965	247 W	OR
Loch na Cuilce <i>lake of the reeds</i>	[ˌLɔxnə ˈkˈuɫçk]	NL637910	247 W	OS*

1823 Lochnacuilchd

Alias: Loch Shanndraigh

Loch na Doirlinn [ˌlɔːxnə d̪ɔ̃rl̪ˈiːn] NF643002 231 W OS
lake of the isthmus
 Alias: An Loch Beag

Loch na h-Ighne Bàine [ˌlɔːxnə ˌhĩːnjə ˈb̪ãːN̪ˠə] NF701007 231 W OR
lake of the fair-haired girl
 Alias: Loch na h-Ighne Ruaidhe, Loch nic Ruaidhe

Loch na h-Ighne Ruaidhe [ˌlɔːxnə ˌhĩːnjə ˈRuəˠə] NF702018 231 W ML
lake of the red-haired girl
 1823 Ln Nieinenirnaigh
 Alias: Loch na h-Ighne Bàine, Loch nic Ruaidhe

Loch na h-Òb [ˌlɔːxnə ˈhɔːp] NF716018 231 W OS
lake of the enclosed bay
 Alias: Loch Obe, Loch nan Sàileach
 1901 Loch na Obb
 The OS form is *Loch Obe*, but locals always pronounce the name as *Loch na h-Òb*. The name is a combination of G loch, ‘lake’ and ON hópr, m, ‘enclosed bay’.

Loch na Fadhlainn Àrd [ˌlɔːxnə ˌfʌːlən ˈɑːR̪d] NF708014 231 W AD
high lake of the isthmus
 1874 Seagulls High Loch
 See Lochan na Faoileann.

Loch na Fadhlainn Ìseal [ˌlɔːxnə ˌfʌːlən ˈiːʃal] NF711012 231 W AD
low lake of the isthmus
 1874 Seagulls Low Loch
 See Lochan na Faoileann.

Loch nan Flùraichean [ˌlɔːxnən ˈfluːR̪iːʃən] NF710008 231 W OR
lake of the flowers
 Alias: Loch an Rubha, Loch Scotageary, Loch nan Lilies

Loch nan Lilies [ˌlɔːxnən ˈlilis] NF710008 231 W OR
lake of the lilies
 Alias: Loch an Rubha, Loch Scotageary, Loch nan Flùraichean
 The specific is a loan from Eng. lily.

Loch nan Sàileach [ˌlɔːxnə ˈsaːL̪ɔ̃x] NF716018 231 W OR
lake of the people from Kintail
 Alias: Loch na h-Òb, Loch Obe

Loch nic Ruaidhe [ˌlɔːxniːʃ ˈkRuəˠɔ̃] NF702018 231 W OS
lake of Nic Ruaidh
 1901 Loch Nidnanuig
 Alias: Loch na h-Ighne Ruaidhe, Loch na h-Ighne Bàine
 There is a story about a red-haired girl who lived at this place and fell in love with the son of the MacNeil of Barra. When she becomes pregnant she and her lover escape by boat and are said to have settled on Colonsay.

- Loch Obe** NF716018 231 W OS
lake of the enclosed bay
 Alias: Loch na h-Òb, Loch nan Sàileach
 See Loch na h-Òb.
- Loch Phàdraig** [ˌlɔx ˈfɑːdrik] NF726018 231 W OR
Patrick's lake
- Loch Pheigi** [ˌlɔx ˈfægi] NL631943 247 W OR
Peggy's lake
- Loch Scotageary** [ˌlɔx ˈskɔʰtəɡəri] NF706007 231 W OS*
lake of S.
 1874 Loch Scotigarrie
 Alias: Loch an Rubha, Loch nan Lilies, Loch nan Flùraichean
 See Scotagearraidh.
- Loch Shannraigh** [ˌlɔx ˈhɑʊndrɛi] NL637910 247 W OR
lake of S.
 Alias: Loch na Cuilce
 See Sandray.
- Loch St. Clair** [ˌlɔx ˌsint ˈkʰlɛr] NL645988 247 W OS
St. Clair's lake
 Alias: Loch MhicLèoid, Loch Tangusdale, Loch an Eas Dhuibhe, Loch Mór
 The name Loch St. Clair was an invention of a Victorian novelist which found its way onto the OS maps. This is one of the rare instances where the OS lists two alternative names for the same feature.
- Loch Tangusdale** [ˌlɔx ˈtɑŋɡəsdel] NL645998 247 W OS
lake of T.
 Alias: Loch St. Clair, Loch MhicLèoid, Loch an Eas Dhuibhe, An Loch Mór
 This is one of the rare instances where the OS lists two alternative names for the same feature. See Tangusdale.
- Loch Uisge** [ˌlɔx ˈuʃkɔ] NF663000 231 W OS*
lake of the fresh water
 1823 Loch Nisk
- Lochan na Cartach** [ˌlɔxənə ˈkʰɑrtɔx] NF695027 231 W OS
little lake of the waterlily
 Cox translates cartach as ‘waterlily’ (see Cox, 1987, name 2226).
- Lochan na Faoileann** [ˌlɔxənə ˈfɑːlən] NF709014 231 W OS*
lakes of the ford
 1823 Loch na Faolin
 Locals distinguish between Loch na Fadhlainn Àrd and Loch na Fadhlainn Ìseal. G faoileann means ‘common seagull’, ‘mew’. However, a derivation from ON vaðill, m, ‘ford’, seems onomastically more appropriate, and the G name may have developed as a result of folk-etymology or a misinterpretation on the part of the map-maker. Dwelly lists fadhail, f, with the meaning of ‘ford’ which suits the geographical setting perfectly as there is a little ford between the two lochs. See Loch na Fadhlainn Àrd.

Loinbo Breaker (<i>breaker</i>) of the reef of barrenness(?) 1901 Lonubo Breaker The first element is likely to be a combination of G luime, f, 'barrenness', 'nakedness' and G bogha, m, a loan from ON boði, m, 'reef'.		NL629930	247 U	AD
Lón an t-Srutha <i>pool of the current</i>	[ˌLɔnə ˈNɟru]	NL655978	247 F	OR
Lòn Mór <i>big pool</i>	[ˌLɔn ˈvo:r]	NF664038	231 F	OS
Lón nan Lèabag <i>pool of the flounders</i>	[ˌLɔNən ˈLʲæbak]	NF650020	231 F	OR
Lón nan Tunnag <i>pool of the ducks</i>	[ˌLɔNən ˈdʲunak]	NF666021	231 F	OR
Lot 'icAsgaill <i>MacAskill's share</i> This name possibly designates a part of the rocky shore which MacAskill used for fowling.	[ˌLɔxdɪç ˈkaskil]	NL607894	260 R	OR
Lot Mhór Tom na Beinne <i>big share of T.</i> See Tom na Beinne.	[ˌLɔʰta ˈvo:r ˌto:m nə ˈbeɪNɔɾ]	NL551836	260 R	OR
Lower Bruernish <i>lower B.</i> Alias: Rubha Chàrnain See Bruernish.	[ˌlouər ˈbru:ɾNɪʃ]	NF723026	231 S	OR
Lub' a' Bhoidich <i>Boyd's pool / marsh</i>	[ˌlubə ˈvɔɪdɪç]	NF722024	231 W	OR
Luba Ghoiridh <i>Godfrey's pool / marsh</i>	[ˌlubə ˈgʷɔɾəɪ]	NF722027	231 W	OR
Machair Pendicle <i>plain of the detached land</i> Pendicle describes a detached portion of land on an estate.	[ˌmaxær ˈpendəgɔɫ]	NL623974	247 F	OR
Machair Shanndraigh <i>plain of S.</i> See Sandray.	[ˌmaxær ˈhaundrɛi]	NL651917	247 F	OR
Machaire Bhuirgh <i>plain of B.</i> Alias: Sligeanach See Borve.	[ˌmaxærə ˈvʊRɪç]	NF652017	231 F	OR

Maclean's Point 1865 - Alias: An Rodha, Rubha MhicillEathain	[.mæk'leəns 'pɔɪnt]	NL568804	260 R	OS*
MacPhee's Hill 1901 Bein McPhee	[.mæk'fi:s 'hil]	NL565841	260 R	OS
Maddasdale 1823 Madasdale, 1878 Modasdale This may be the site of an earlier settlement. The meaning of the first element is uncertain, possibly ON. The second element may either derive from ON <i>dalr</i> , m, 'valley' or ON <i>stǫðull</i> , m, 'milking place'.	[.madəsɔəl]	NF737092	231 S	OS*
Manse	[.mans]	NF668036	231 S	OS
Màs a' Mhill <i>back of the hill</i>	[.mã:sə 'vĩl]	NL653942	247 R	OR
Màs an Rubha <i>back of the point</i>	[.mã:sə 'Ruɔ]	NF717003	231 R	OR
Màs Fhlodaigh <i>back of F.</i> See Flodday.	[.mã:s 'lɔdɑ]	NF756020	231 R	OR
Màs Fhùaigh <i>back of F.</i> See Fuiay.	[.mã:s 'hu:ia]	NF742020	231 R	OR
Màs na h-Àirde <i>back of the hill</i> This name describes the entire adjacent coastline.	[.mã:snə 'hɑ:ɾɔdʲə]	NL569852	260 R	OR
Màs na h-Iodhlainn <i>back of the enclosure</i> This place was used for stacking hay for the winter. The stacks were secured for the winter and would then be used for feeding cattle.	[.mã:snə 'hiLɑN]	NF723024	231 R	OR
Mason's Point 1874 Mason's Point Alias: Meall nam Bùth.	[.me:sns 'pɔɪnt]	NF710001	231 R	AD
Mast This name is English and indicates the site of a mast.	[.mast]	NF710016	231 O	OS
Meadhon a' Ghlinne <i>middle of the valley</i>	[.mi-ɛNə 'g̊linɔ]	NL671984	247 R	OR
Mealbhach <i>sandy hillocks</i>	[.meaLax]	NF700067	231 R	OR

McDonald suggests Mealathaich and Mealbhaich as possible variations on spelling. The name describes a stretch of machair with bent-covered hillocks much frequented by rabbits. (McDonald, 1958:176)

Meall an Laoigh [mjãLəN 'lɔi] NF769054 231 R OS*
knoll of the calf
 1823 Meallanlagigh, 1874 Calf Lump

Meall Meadhonach [mjãL'mi-ɛNɔx] NF596041 231 R OS*
middle knoll
 This name was entered in the OS Object Name Book but never placed on a map.

Meall Meadhonach [mjãL'mi-ɛNɔx] NF727017 231 R OR
middle knoll

Meall Mór [mjãL'mo:r] NF763033 231 R OS*
big knoll
 1823 Meallmore, 1874 Meal More
 Alias: A' Chreag Mhór, Creag Mhór an Eilein

Meall na h-Eille [mjãLnə 'heljə] NF737021 231 R ML
knoll of the precipice / advantage / flock (?)
 1823 Mealnaheilla
 Dwelly's translation of the specific is taken from Armstrong's dictionary of Perthshire Gaelic and therefore may not be appropriate in a Western Isles context. There may be a connection with G féill, a 'market'. Being located on the shore of the small and only for a short period inhabited island of Fuiay the location itself is unlikely to have been the site of a market or fair. It may, however, have been the point from which cattle or sheep were loaded onto boats to be taken to the nearest market. The OS Object Name Book refers to this site as *Meall an Leag* and states that the meaning of this name is obscure.

Meall nam Bùth [mjãLnəm 'bu:] NF710001 231 R OS*
hill of the booths
 Alias: Mason's Point
 Meall nam Bùthanan is given by Roderick MacPherson. The specific G bùth is a loan from Eng. booth and ON buð, 'booth', 'tent'.

Meall nam Mult [mjãLnə 'mult] NF756023 231 R OR
hill of the wethers
 Jonathan MacNeil (see bibliography, tape section) locates this name 300 m further north-west.

Meanish ['mɛəNiʃ] NL654910 247 R OS*
middle peninsula
 1823 Mailinish
 Lying in the middle of two other headlands the derivation of M. from ON meðan, adv., 'middle', and ON nes, n, 'headland' seems appropriate.

Melast ['mɛlɛst] NL693985 247 R OR
sea-links stead
 Henderson's derivation of Melasta from ON melr, m, 'sea-links' and ON staðir, m, 'settlement' (see Henderson, 1910:346) is suitable in this geographic context.

Mill <i>mill</i>	[ˈmɪl]	NL640925	247 S	OR
Mill <i>mill</i> 1865 -	[ˈmɪl]	NL565802	260 S	AD
Mill <i>mill</i> 1823 -	[ˈmɪl]	NF697032	231 S	ML
Mingulay <i>big island</i> 1549 Megaly, 1654 Megala, 1695 Micklay, 1764 Mingula, 1794a Mingalay, 1794b Mingalla I., 1805 Mingalay, 1824 Mingala, 1845 Mingalay, 1846 Mingulay, 1848 Mingalay I., 1854 Mingala, 1865 Mingulay Borgstrøm suggests Mi'ulaidh for G spelling and Mikiley for ON. He translates the name as 'big isle' for ON mikil, 'big', which later was weakened to /g/. The /u/ sound cannot be accounted for so that the meaning is not entirely certain. The generic originates from ON øy, f, 'island'. Mingulay is the largest and highest of the islands south of Barra.	[ˈmɪŋgələi] also [ˈmʲuːləʲ]	NL558831	260 I	OS*
Miracal Point Alias: Rubh' a' Mhorbhuile	[ˈmɪrəkəl ˌpɔɪnt]	NL685943	247 R	AD
Missionary Croft Nowadays the Heathbank Hotel, a conversion of a former church, is located on the grounds of the Missionary Croft.	[ˈmɪʃnəri ˌkrɒft]	NF710027	231 S	OR
Mòinteach Bhail' nam Bodach <i>moorland of B.</i> Alias: A' Mhòinteach See Balnabodach.	[ˌmɔːtˈɔx ˈvɔlnəˈbɔdɔx]	NF711015	231 V	OR
Mol an t-Suidheachain <i>shingly beach of the sitting place</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh.	[ˌmɔ̃lənˈɕuɪəxain]	NF687056	231 R	OR
Mol Bheag Orosaigh <i>little shingly beach of O.</i> G mol, f, is a loan from ON mǫl, f, 'gravel bed'. For derivation of Orosaigh see Orosay.	[ˌmɔ̃lˌvæk ˈɔrɔ-ɔsɛi]	NL642971	247 R	OR
Mol Bheag Rubha Ghlas <i>little shingly beach of the grey-green point</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Rubha Glas.	[ˌmɔ̃lˌvæk ˌRuə ˈɣlas]	NL651974	247 R	OR
Mol Chliaid <i>shingly beach of C.</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Cleat.	[ˌmɔ̃ləˈxliatʰ]	NF666049	231 R	OR

Mol an Dìon <i>shingly beach of shelter</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaidh.	[,mɔ̃lə 'dʒiən]	NL662982	247 R	OR
Mol Fhlodaigh <i>shingly beach of F.</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Flodday.	[,mɔ̃ 'lɔdaj]	NF753021	231 R	OR
Mol Mór <i>big shingly beach</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Flodday.	[,mɔ̃l'vo:r]	NF653031	231 R	OS6"
Mol nam Faochag <i>shingly beach of the welks</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh.	[,mɔ̃lə 'fɛ:xak]	NF711028	231 R	OR
Mol nam Faochag <i>shingly beach of the welks</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh.	[,mɔ̃lə 'fɛ:xak]	NF655043	231 R	OR
Mol Orosaigh <i>shingly beach of O.</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Orosay.	[,mɔ̃l'ɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi]	NL667973	247 R	OR
Mol Risebig <i>shingly beach of brushwood bay</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Creag Risebig.	[,mɔ̃l'Riʃəbik]	NF730019	231 R	OR
Mol Sgurabhail <i>shingly beach of S.</i> Alias: Bàgh nan Clach, Stony Bay See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Scurrival.	[,mɔ̃l'skʊɾiʋəl]	NF695084	231 R	OR
Mol Thréisibhig <i>shingly beach of T.</i> See Mol Bheag Orosaigh and Tresivick.	[,mɔ̃l'reiʃivik]	NL627957	247 R	OR
Monument	['mɔ̃njumənt]	NL630953	247 A	OS
Mud Rock 1874 -	['mʌd ,rɔk]	NF730004	231 I	AD
Muileann Dhòmhnaill <i>Donald's mill</i> This is a primary name and forms part of Abhainn Muilleann Dhomhnuill.	[,muL'in 'ɾɔ-əL]	NF665031	231 S	OS
Muldoanich <i>headland of the Lord</i> 1549 Scarpnamutt, 1654 Scarpa, 1794a Muldonich or Deer Island, 1823 Muldoanich, 1824 Mul Donich, 1848 Muldonish, 1854 Muldonich, 1865 Muldoanich I.	[,muL'dɔ̃:niç]	NL688939	247 I	OS*

This name is a combination of *G* maol, ‘the tonsured one’ or ‘headland’ and Dòmhnach, ‘the Lord’, from Dominicus. Maol Dòmhnach, anglicized Ludovic, was a relatively common personal name in its own right. Maol offered a pun which made it suitable for such a land mass. This name was first recorded in 1794, before that it carried the probably ON name Scarpa or Scarpsnamutt. It is possible that its young religious name is a euphemism for this large sea-rock which is rather a nuisance than a blessing.

Mullach a' Charnain [ˌmulɔxə ˈxɑːR̥n̪ən] NF764049 231 R OS
top of the stony ground

Mullach a' Lusgan [ˌmulɔxə ˈlusɡən] NL559799 260 R OS
top/ hillock of the ?

One informant thought lusgan to be some kind of plant. See *G* lus in McDonald, 1958:170 and see *G* loisgean, m, ‘pimpernel’, ‘poor man’s weather-glass’, ‘burnet’ in Dwelly, 1901:597.

Mullach a' Mhiriceil [ˌmulɔxə ˈviriɕəl] NF733016 231 R OR
top of M.
See A' Mhiriceil.

Mullach Àird Ghrinn [ˌmulɔx ˌɑːR̥d ˈɣr̪iːn̪] NF659046 231 R OR
top of A.
See Greian Head.

Mullach an Rathaid [ˌmulɔxə ˈRɑːət̪] NF719024 231 R OR
top of the road
Alias: Mullach Bhruairnis
G rathad, m, from MEng. roade, ‘road’.

Mullach Bhruairnis [ˌmulɔx ˈvruːR̥niːʃ] NF719024 231 R OR
top of B.
Alias: Mullach an Rathaid
See Bruernish.

Mullach Cadha na h-Imprich [ˌmulɔx ˌkʰahərnə ˈhim-priːʃ] NF711023 231 R OR
top of C.
See Cadha na h-Imprich.

Mullach Fhùaigh [ˌmulɔx ˈhuːiəʃ] NF741023 231 R OR
top of F.
See Fuiay.

Mullach Leithinis [ˌmulɔx ˈLæːniːʃ] NL699990 247 R OR
top of L.
See Leanish.

Mullach Neachel [ˌmulɔx ˈNiəxəl] NF735082 231 R OS
top of ?
1878 Mullach Nadia

The 1878 form of this name and its contemporary version are obscure. It is possible that the name may have originated from Mullach an Fhiacaill, or in its old *G* form Mullach an Fhiacila, meaning ‘tooth-shaped top’ with the 1878 entry misread Mullach Naclia.

Mullach Rumich <i>top of the quagmire</i> 1878 Mullach Rumanich	[ˌmulɔx ˈrumiç]	NL564799	260 R	OS
Na Boghannan Dearga <i>the red sunken rocks</i> Alias: Na Sgeirean Dearga, Boghannan Dearg' a' Churachain	[nə ˌboanən ˈdʒɛrəŋɔ̃]	NL748996	247 U	OR
Na Bràithrean <i>the brothers</i> In this context possibly meaning 'twin stones'.	[nə ˈbrɑːrən]	NF674014	231 R	OR
Na Caignichean Dubha <i>the black rough mountain passes</i> G caigeann has the meaning of 'pair' or 'couple'. According to MacEachen (Arisaig / Badenoch) who is quoted in Dwelly (1901:147) it also has the meaning of 'rough mountain pass'. This information is particularly relevant to Barra.	[nə ˌkagničən ˈduɔ̃]	NL551833	260 R	OR
Na Caisteil Bheaga <i>the little castles</i>	[nə ˌkʰæftəl ˈvøkɔ̃]	NL625994	247 I	OR
Na Cam-alltan <i>the crooked burns</i>	[nə ˌkʰamāũltan]	NL695989	247 W	OR
Na Caolais Bheaga <i>the little sounds</i>	[nə ˌkʰɑːləs ˈvøkɔ̃]	NF733030	231 W	OR
Na Cìreanan <i>the cock's combs</i> 1865 Bird Rock Alias: Bird Rock, Sgeir a' Chìrein, Sgeir an t-Salainn Cìrean is a topographical term for serrated edge which looks like a cock's comb. The OS 6" map lists Cìrein Beag and Cìrein Móra at this location. Vatersay fishermen use the collective term Na Cìreanan.	[nə ˌkʰiːrənən]	NL554798	260 R	OR
Na Coirichean <i>the corries</i>	[nə ˌkʰøriçən]	NF684002	231 R	OR
Na Creagan Móra <i>the big rocks</i> Alias: Tea Rooms	[nə ˌkʰrekʰən ˈmoːrɔ̃]	NF728009	231 R	OR
Na Dubh Sgeirean <i>the black skerries</i> Alias: Inner Heisker G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, 'skerry'.	[nə ˌdʰuh ˌskʰeran]	NL585867	260 I	OR
Na Geòdhachan <i>the gullies</i> The OS location of Geòdhachan is incorrect. See An Geòdha.	[nə ˌgʲɔ̃ːaxən]	NL564818	260 W	OR

- Na Gleannain** NF702047 231 R
the little glens
 Na Gleannain has been extracted from the secondary name Clach Mhór nan Gleannan.
- Na h-Àrd Gheannairean Fada** [nə ˌhɑːɾd ˌɡeəʊnɑrən 'fadʒ] NL550805 260 R OR
the high long wedges
- Na h-Aonaichean** [nə ˈhʌːniçən] NF653051 231 R OR
the flat-topped heights
- Na h-Eileanan** [nə ˈheːlɑnən] NF719030 231 I OR
the islands
 Alias: Na h-Eileanan Glasa, Eilean Dhùghaill Phàdraig
 G eilean, m, a loan from ON eyland, related to ON øy, f, 'island'.
- Na h-Eileanan Dubha** [nə ˌheːlɑnən ˈdʊʒ] NF726029 231 I OR
the black islands
 Alias: Black Islands
 See Na h-Eileanan.
- Na h-Eileanan Fùideach** [nə ˌheːlɑnən ˈfuːɟax] NF760040 231 I OR
the islands of Fuday
 A collective term for Gighay and Hellisay. Possibly these islands were (re-)settled by people from Fuday. See Na h-Eileanan and Fuday.
- Na h-Eileanan Glasa** [nə ˌheːlɑnən ˈɡlasʒ] NF719030 231 I OR
the grey-green islands
 Alias: Eilean Dhùghaill Phàdraig, Na h-Eileanan
 See Na h-Eileanan.
- Na h-Eileanan Glasa** [nə ˌheːlɑnən ˈɡlasʒ] NF710046 231 I OR
the grey-green islands
 Alias: An t-Eilean Glas
 See Na h-Eileanan.
- Na Hillearn** [nə ˈhiːlɜrn] NF663035 231 R OR
the eagles (?)
 This name may be connected with G Na h-Iolairean.
- Na Horgh** [nə ˈhɔːrəʃ] NF704040 231 R OR
the cairn / heap of stones
 There is a patch greener than the rest of the hill. See Horough.
- Na Làrach Bàine** [nə ˌlɑːrəx ˈbɑːɹʒ] NL571840 260 R OR
the white mare
 This name is evidence that some forms are part of a genitive construction. Na Làrach Bàine here in a gen. sg. is likely to have been part of a longer name such as for example Ceann na Làireach Bàine. If transformed into a form in nom. case the name would become An Làir Bhàn.

Na Latha-Lìn <i>the layered mountain side</i>	[nə ,l̪a-a'li:n]	NL550831	260 R	OR
Na Latha-Lìn is part of Biulacraig and is likely to derive from ON hlað, n, 'something stacked or layered' and ON (h)lein, f, 'mountain side' coinciding with the present geographical conditions.				
Na Leacan Dubha <i>the black flagstones</i> Alias: Leac an Dosain	[nə ,l̪'æxkən 'duʃ]	NF650046	231 R	OR
Na Leacan Dubha <i>the black flagstones</i>	[nə ,l̪'æxkən 'duʃ]	NL677991	247 R	OR
Na Ludagain Alias: Sheader Rocks, An Sgeir Dhubh McDonald mentions the name Ludagain but gives no further explanations (McDonald, 1958:169). According to Dwelly this name would have to be translated as 'little fingers'.	[nə 'ludagən]	NL627916	247 I	OR
Na Muileannan <i>the mills</i>	[nə 'mul'ənən]	NF729013	231 S	OR
Na Muileannan <i>the mills</i>	[nə 'mul'ənən]	NF742027	231 S	OR
Na Séige <i>bent grass (?)</i>	[nə 'ʃe:gɔ]	NL565819	260 V	OR
Na Sgeirean <i>the skerries</i> Alias: Sgeirean Cùil a' Bhaile G sgeir, f, a loan from ON sker, n, 'skerry'.	[nə 'sk'erən]	NL666978	247 I	OR
Na Sgeirean Beaga <i>the little skerries</i> See Na Sgeirean.	[nə ,sk'erən 'vøkɔ]	NF647010	231 I	OR
Na Sgeirean Carach <i>the deceiving skerries</i> 1901 Sgeir a' Charach Alias: Am Bogha Dubh See Na Sgeirean.	[nə ,sk'erən 'karax]	NL705982	247 I	OR*
Na Sgeirean Dearga <i>the red skerries</i> Alias: Na Boghannan Dearga, Boghannan Dearg' a' Churachain See Na Sgeirean.	[nə ,sk'erən 'dʒɛrəkɔ]	NL748996	247 I	OR
Na Sgeirean Dubha <i>the black skerries</i> See Na Sgeirean.	[nə ,sk'erən 'duʃ]	NL702992	247 I	OR

Na Sgùdan <i>the clusters</i>	[nə 'sku:dan]	NF704046	231 R	OR
This place was generally used as a meeting place. See An Sgùdag.				
Na Sgurragan <i>the sharp-pointed hills</i>	[nə 'sk'urəgan]	NF706041	231 R	OR
G sgùrr, m, a loan from ON skǫr, f, 'steep or sharp-pointed hill'.				
Na Sgurragan <i>the sharp-pointed hills</i>	[nə 'sk'urəgan]	NF682020	231 R	OR
See Na Sgurragan.				
Na Sgurragan Móra <i>the big steep hills</i>	[nə ,sk'urəgan 'mo:rɔ̃]	NF703040	231 R	OR
See Na Sgurragan.				
Na Slocan Dubha <i>the black gullies</i>	[nə ,sloxkən 'duɔ̃]	NL599882	260 W	OR
Malcolm MacAulay locates this place-name east of Sròn Lithinis.				
Na Sluic <i>the gullies</i>	[nə 'sluiçk]	NL552845	260 W	OR
Alias: Slocan Guarsay				
Na Tobhtaichean <i>the ruins</i>	[nə 'tɔxtiçən]	NL634979	247 S	OR
See An Tobhta.				
Na Tobhtaichean <i>the ruins</i>	[nə 'tɔxtiçən]	NF715017	231 S	OR
Na Tobhtaichean <i>the ruins</i>	[nə 'tɔxtiçən]	NF676012	231 S	OR
Na Tobhtaichean Ruadh <i>the red ruins</i>	[nə ,tɔxtiçən 'Ruəɾ]	NF709007	231 S	OR
Nask <i>narrow passage</i>	['nask]	NL652984	247 S	OS*
1764 -, 1806 -, 1834 Naske This settlement name is probably derived from ON naskarð, 'cleft' or 'two mountains meeting'. Nask is located in the extension of the narrow valley between Beinn an Lochain and the unnamed hill at the top of Rubha Mór and therefore would suit the description.				
Natural Arch	['natʃrəl 'ɑrtʃ]	NL548824	260 R	OS
See Drochaid Ghunamul.				
Natural Arch	['natʃrəl 'ɑrtʃ]	NL612921	247 R	OS
According to locals this arch collapsed in the 1970s.				

Natural Arch	[ˈnatʃrəl ˈɑːtʃ]	NL624997	247 R	OS
Nead an Duibheinich <i>nest of the blackbird</i> G nead, m, related to Lat. nidus and Eng. nest.	[ˈnidən ˈd̪ujənax]	NL544820	260 R	OR
Nead Feannaig <i>nest of the crow</i>	[ˈnid ˈfæˌnək]	NL643977	247 O	OR
Night Bay 1865 - Alias: Bàgh na h-Aoineig	[ˈnait ˈbeː]	NL550832	260 W	AD
Nisam Point <i>bottom point</i> 1865 - Also known as Nisam. This may be a variation of ON nið, n, ‘bottom’, or niðum in the dative pl. Indeed, Nisam is a low-lying part of Berneray, “composed entirely of bare, flattish rocks” (OS Object Name Books), and forms a strong contrast to the high cliffs at the lighthouse. There is a place called Nidarholm in Norway.	[ˈnisəm ˈpɔɪnt]	NL574799	260 R	OS*
North Bay 1794a Tirivah, 1794b Ba Hiravah, 1824 Ba Hirivah, 1845 Bayhierava, 1848 Ba Hiravah, 1854 Tirivee bay, 1874 North Harbour, 1901 North Harbour, 1945 North Bay Ruairidh Halford-MacLeod points out that the entrance to what is nowadays known as North Bay was mentioned in the ships’ log books of HMS Baltimore and HMS Furnace where it was referred to as <i>Flodday Bay</i> . Both ships were used by the Admiralty in the chase of ‘Bonnie Prince Charlie’. The log books are held in the Public Record Office at Kew / London (HMS Baltimore ADM/51/80, HMS Furnace ADM/51/379). I am grateful to Mr. Halford-MacLeod for this contribution.	[ˈnɔːrθ ˈbeː]	NF728025	231 W	OS*
North Sand Alias: An Tràigh a Deas This name corresponds to <i>West Sand</i> and <i>Centre Sand</i> .		NL636939	247 R	SH
Northbay See North Bay.	[ˈnɔːrθ ˈbeː]	NF707030	231 S	OR
Northbay House Northbay House used to be a primary school but has been converted into a guest house. Like nearby Cadha na h-Imprich, ‘pass of the flitting’, it is said to be haunted.	[ˈnɔːrθbe ˈhaus]	NF707020	231 S	OR
Northbay Inn 1874 Inn This public house no longer exists.	[ˈnɔːrθbe ˈin]	NF702033	231 S	OS*
Obe River <i>river of the enclosed bay</i> See Ben Obe.	[ˈɔːp ˈrɪvər]	NF699021	231 W	OS
Oitir a’ Bhàigh	[ɔxtˈirə ˈv̪ɑːj]	NL645966	247 W	OR

sand bank of the bay

Alias: An Oitir

G bàgh, m, a loan from ON vágr, m, 'bay'.

Oitir Mhór [ɔxt'ir' 'vo:r] NF730060 231 W OS*
big sand bank

1794a Ottirvore, 1794b Otervore, 1823 Ottervore, 1845 Ottirvore, 1846 Ottervore, 1854 Ottir-vore, 1865 Outer Otter Vore, 1945 Outer Oitir More, 1987 Outer Oitir Mhór

Oitir na Cailliche [ɔxt'ir'nə 'k'aliçə] NF725097 231 W AD
sand bank of the old woman
1874 Otter na Cailleach
See story in section 5.3.

Oitir na Gréine [ɔxt'ir'nə 'grɛ:njə] NL645977 247 W OR
sand bank of the sun

Oitir Sgiùrtaig [ɔxt'ir' 'sk'ju:st'ik] NF760047 231 W OR
sand bank of little boat bay
G oitir describes a 'shallow bank in the sea'. The second part may be related to the Norwegian place-name Skuteviken (see Sandnes, 1976:286) from skúta, f, 'little boat' and vík, f, 'bay'. This derivation would make onomastic sense as the bay is suitable for boats but due to its shallows only for small ones.

Old Graveyard ['old 'grɛ:vjɑrd] NF656030 231 O OR

Old Hospital ['old 'hɔspitl] NL679988 247 S OR

Old Inn ['old 'in] NF703033 231 S OR

Old Post Office [old 'postɔfis] NF707030 231 S OR
The Old Post Office was built in 1922.

Old Shielings ['old 'ʃi:liŋs] NF683049 231 S OS

Old Village Cleat ['old ,viliɔ̯ 'k'li:tə] NF669049 231 S OR
Local informants say that this was the location of the Old Village.

Old Woman's Rock ['old ,wuməns 'rɔk] NF716094 231 R AD
1874 -

Orosay ['ɔrɔ-ɔsəi] NL641972 247 T OS*
ebb tide island

1654 Orosay, 1823 Oronsay

A combination of ON órför, f, 'ebb tide' (see Heggstad, 1930:511) and ON øy, f, 'island' for 'tidal island'. Borgstrøm lists G Oro'osaidh, with a hiatus on the second 'o' (see Campbell, 1936:290). Orosay and Oronsay occur frequently in the Western Isles, Norway and Iceland. There are four places called Orosay in the Barra group alone.

Orosay <i>ebb tide island</i> 1764 Ornsay, 1823 Ornsay, 1865 - See Orosay.	[ˈɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi]	NL666972	247 T	OS*
Orosay <i>ebb tide island</i> 1823 Oronsay, 1874 Oransay See Orosay.	[ˈɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi]	NL707992	247 T	OS*
Orosay <i>ebb tide island</i> 1549 Orvansay, 1764 Oronsay, 1823 Oronsay See Orosay.	[ˈɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi]	NF714062	231 T	OS*
Outer Heisker <i>outer H.</i> 1901 Outer Hesker Alias: Heisker, Sgeir nan Ròn See Inner Heisker.	[ˌautər ˈheːʃkər]	NL573867	260 I	OS
Pabbay <i>hermit's island</i> 1549 Pabay, 1695 Pabbay, 1764 Pabay, 1794b I. Pabba, 1807 Pabbay, 1824 Pabba, 1845 Pabbay, 1848 Pabbay I. A combination of ON <i>papi</i> , <i>m</i> , ‘hermit’ and ON <i>øy</i> , <i>f</i> , ‘island’.	[ˈpʰapˈɛi]	NL602875	260 I	OS*
Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais <i>enclosure of B.</i> G <i>pàirc</i> , <i>f</i> , a loan from MEng. <i>parrok</i> , ‘park’. See <i>Beul a' Chaolais</i> .	[ˈpʰærçkə ˌbʲelə ˈxʌːlɪʃ]	NF644001	231 F	OR
Pàirc a' Chreagain <i>enclosed field of the little rock</i> See <i>Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais</i> .	[ˌpʰærçkə ˈxregain]	NF709073	231 F	OR
Pàirc a' Mheadhoin <i>middle enclosed field</i> See <i>Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais</i> .	[ˌpʰærçkə ˈvĩən]	NF664029	231 F	OR
Pàirc an Fheòir <i>enclosed field of hay</i> See <i>Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais</i> .	[ˌpʰærçkə ˈNjɔːr]	NF676033	231 F	OR
Pàirce Màiri Móireadh <i>enclosed field of Mary daughter of Marian</i> See <i>Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais</i> .	[ˈpʰærçkə ˌmaːri ˈmoːrɐɹ]	NL645993	247 F	OR
Pendicle <i>detached part of an estate</i> Sco. <i>pendicle</i> has the meaning of ‘a small piece of land attached to a larger one’.	[ˈpendɪkl]	NF658042	231 F	OR

Perfume Factory	[ˈpɛrfjʊm ˈfaktəri]	NL652996	247 S	OR
Although now closed, the building still serves as a landmark.				
Phall' a' Mhuilt	[ˌfɑlə ˈvult]	NL570822	260 R	OR
<i>cliff/fold of the wether</i>				
The generic is derived from ON pallr, m, 'ledge', 'cliff'. G fāl, m, 'pen-fold for stray cattle or sheep', may be ruled out as an alternative interpretation of the generic, as the location at a steep cliff is unsuitable for landing boats to load or unload sheep, and is too exposed to the elements.				
Phalla Bheag Iagain	[ˌfɑlə ˈvæk ˌiagan ˈRuəri]	NL652983	247 R	OR
Ruairidh				
<i>Iagan (son of) Roderick's small cliff</i>				
ON pallr, m, 'ledge', 'cliff'.				
Phalla na Clòimhe	[ˌfɑlənə ˈkʰlɔːjɔ]	NL649978	247 E	OR
<i>pen of the wool</i>				
An alternative location is NL667987. In this context the generic of this name is likely to originate from G fāl, 'pen'.				
Phalla na Druide	[ˌfɑlənə ˈdʁutʰ]	NF696008	231 E	OR
<i>cliff/ pen of the starling</i>				
ON pallr, m, 'ledge', 'cliff', or G fāl, 'pen'. Starlings often congregate in places where sheep have been enclosed.				
Phalla nan Sreang	[ˌfɑlənən ˈʃtræŋ]	NF707011	231 R	OR
<i>cliff of the ropes</i>				
See A' Phalla Bhàn.				
Pier	[ˈpiər]	NF717032	231 W	OS
Pier	[ˈpiər]	NL565805	260 W	OS*
1865 Landing Slip				
Pillar	[ˈpilər]	NL684962	247 O	OS
Poll an Dùdain	[ˌpʰɔlən ˈdʉːdan]	NL655914	247 W	OR
<i>pool of the fine powdered seaweed</i>				
The generic is derived from ON pollr, m, 'little round bay with narrow access' (see McDonald: 1958:107).				
Poll an t-Sìl	[ˌpʰɔlən ˈʃiːl]	NL555808	260 W	OR
<i>pool of the sprat / seed</i>				
Poll Fhlodaigh	[ˌpʰɔːlɔdɑː]	NL615923	247 W	OR
<i>pool of F.</i>				
See Flodday.				
Poll Hiargebig	[ˌpʰɔːlˈhiərgɛbɪkʰ]	NL649902	247 W	OR
<i>pool of ? + bay</i>				

The second element is obscure. ON *vík*, *f*, means ‘bay’.

Poll Lingeigh <i>pool of L.</i> See Lingay.	[p'ɔ'l'ɪŋgei]	NL607896	260 W	OR
Poll nam Faochag <i>pool of the winkles</i> 1823 Poullnafaochag	[p'ɔlnə 'fɛ:xak]	NL648939	247 W	ML
Poll nan Leac <i>pool of the flagstones</i> 1874 Poul Leac	[p'ɔlnən 'l'æxk]	NF725080	231 R	OS6""
Port a Deas <i>south port</i> Alias: Port Deas an Uidhe	[pɔʃtə,ɕɛs]	NL658957	247 W	OS
Port a' Bhàta <i>port of the boat</i>	[p'ɔʃtə 'va:h'tɔ]	NL632968	247 W	OR
Port a' Bhàta <i>port of the boat</i>	[p'ɔʃtə 'va:h'tɔ]	NL919972	247 W	OS
Port a' Bhuailte <i>port of the hut</i>	[pɔʃtə 'vuaɫtjə]	NL687974	247 W	OR
Port a' Chùbair <i>port of the cooper</i>	[pɔʃtə 'xu:pər]	NF706031	231 W	OR
Port a' Mhaide <i>port of the driftwood</i>	[pɔʃtə 'vaɕə]	NL702986	247 W	OR
Port a' Mhaoir <i>port of the ground officer</i>	[pɔʃtə 'vɛ:r]	NL654985	247 W	OR
Port a' Schooner <i>port of the schooner</i>	[p'ɔʃtə 'sku:nər]	NL657985	247 W	OR
Port Àirigh Chàidh <i>port of Caidh's shieling (?)</i>	[pɔʃt ,a:ɾi 'xɑ:j]	NL646976	247 W	OR
Port Allt Eathasdail <i>port of A.</i> See Allt Eathasdail.	[pɔʃt ,aʊlt 'e:əsɔəl]	NL641976	247 W	OR
Port an Dùin <i>port of the fort</i>	[pɔʃtən'dū:N]	NL668982	247 W	OR
Port an Dùin Bhàin <i>port of D.</i>	[pɔʃtə ,Nɔ̌ūn 'vā:N]	NF633004	231 W	OR

See Dun Bàn.

Port an Duine [ˌpɔʃtə nˈd̪ʲʌn̪ˠ] NL677972 247 W OR
port of the man
 Maybe an unidentified body was washed ashore at this place.

Port an Duine [ˌpɔʃtə nˈd̪ʲʌn̪ˠ] NL677972 247 S CR
port of the man
 1823 Port an Duine, 1834 Phortduine
 See Port an Duine.

Port an Lodain [ˌpɔʃtəˈlɔd̪ən] NF702094 231 W OS*
port of little pool/bog/marsh
 1823 Porta-loden, 1874 Port a Lodden
 G lodan is the diminutive of lod, ‘bog’, ‘puddle’.

Port an Rubha [ˌpɔʃtəˈRuʃ] NF717005 231 W OR
port of the point
 Alias: Port Mór Màs an Rubha, Am Port Mór

Port an t-Sealastair [ˌpɔʃtənˈʃɛl̪əsder] NL704993 247 W OR
port of the iris
 John MacIntyre locates this name at NL704988, Roderick Buchanan at NL703987.

Port an t-Sealastair [ˌpɔʃtənˈʃɛl̪əsder] NL657981 247 W OR
port of the iris

Port an t-Seór [ˌpɔʃtənˈʃoːr] NF726022 231 W OR
shore port
 Seòr is the gaelicized version of E ‘shore’.

Port Beag Glaic Choinnich [ˌpɔʃt̪ ˌb̪ɛk ˌɡ̊l̪aiçkˈxɔ̃niç] NL674972 247 W OR
little port of G.
 See Glaic-choinnich.

Port Bhréibhig [ˌpɔʃt̪ˈv̪reːvik] NL694987 247 W OR
port of B.
 See Brevig.

Port Bula nam Faachag [ˌpɔʃt̪ ˌb̪ul̪ənəmˈf̪ʌːxak] NF731007 231 W OR
port of the bowl of winkles
 G bula, m, is an old-fashioned word for ‘bowl’ (see Dwelly, 1901:141). There may be a relation to ON pollr, ‘deep pool’. See Poll nam Faachag.

Port Caol [ˌpɔʃt̪ˈkʰʌːl] NF647022 231 W OS
narrow port

Port Chal [ˌpɔʃt̪əˈxal] NL654985 247 W OR
Cal’s port
 Cal is the nickname of Malcolm MacNeil’s father.

Port Chaluum Bhig <i>Little Malcolm's port</i>	[,pɔʃt ˌxalɤm ˈvik]	NL654981	247 W	OR
Port Choinnich <i>Kenneth's port</i>	[,pɔʃt ˈxɔɲiç]	NL655986	247 W	OR
Port Cùile Dhùghaill <i>port of Dougall's corner</i>	[,pɔʃt ˌkʰu:lə ˈɣuəl]	NF654045	231 W	OR
Port Deas an Uidhe <i>south port of the isthmus</i> Alias: Port a Deas See Uidh.	[,pɔʃt ˌdʒɛs əˈnuið]	NL658957	247 W	OS
Port Dhòmhnaill Chailein <i>Donald (son of) Colin's port</i>	[,pɔʃt ˌɾɔ̃-əlˈxalain]	NL668982	247 W	OR
Port Dhòmhnaill Dhòmhnaill Bhig <i>port of Donald of Little Donald</i> Alias: Port Fhionnlaigh, Port Ecka	[,pɔʃt ˌɾɔ̃-əlˌɾɔ̃-əlˈvik]	NL654984	247 W	OR
Port Dhòmhnaill Fhionnlaigh <i>port of Donald (of) Finlay</i>	[,pɔʃt ˌɾɔ̃-əlˈju:lɐ]	NF734011	231 W	OR
Port Don <i>Don's port</i> Alias: Port Taigh a' Mhàil	[,pɔʃt ˈdɔn]	NL654983	247 W	OR
Port Eachainn <i>Hector's port</i>	[,pɔʃt ɛˈaxan]	NF716016	231 W	OR
Port Ecka <i>port of Ecka</i> Alias: Port Dhòmhnaill Dhòmhnaill Bhig, Port Fhionnlaigh 'Ecka' is a nickname possibly for Alexander.	[,pˈɔʃt ˈɛkə]	NL654984	247 W	OR
Port Eoghainn 'ic an Léigh <i>Hugh Livingstone's port</i> Hugh Livingstone emigrated to Canada.	[,pɔʃt ˌeˈauɲiçkə ˈleɪ]	NF717016	231 W	OR
Port Fhionnlaigh <i>Finlay's port</i> Alias: Port Dhòmhnaill Dhòmhnaill Bhig, Port Ecka	[,pɔʃt ˈju:lɐ]	NL654984	247 W	OR
Port Hotch <i>port of Hotch</i> 'Hotch' is a nickname.	[,pˈɔʃt ˈhɔʃ]	NL656986	247 W	OR
Port Iagan an Dot	[,pɔʃt ˌiäkənən ˈdɔt]	NL656986	247 W	OR

Iagan (son of) Dot's port

Port Iagan Néill <i>Iagan (of) Neil's port</i> Alias: Port Sheumaidh	[,pɔʃt̪ ˈiəkə ˈN̪eːl]	NL656987	247 W	OR
Port Laman <i>Laman's harbour</i>	[,pɔʃtə ˈlāman]	NL656986	247 W	OR
Port Mór Mäs an Rubha <i>big port of M.</i> Alias: Port an Rubha, Am Port Mór See Mäs an Rubha.	[,pɔʃt̪ ˈmoːr ˌmäsə ˈRuʃ]	NF717005	231 W	OR
Port na Carraige <i>port of the fishing rock</i>	[,pɔʃtnə ˈkʰaRɛkjə]	NF717016	231 W	OR
Port na Cille <i>harbour of the chapel</i> 1823 Portnakilla G cill, f, a loan from Lat. cella, 'cell', 'chapel'.	[,pɔʃtnə ˈkʰilʲ]	NF648016	231 W	OS*
Port na Clement <i>port of the 'Clement'</i> The 'Clement' was a ship.	[,pɔʃtnə ˈkʰleˈment]	NL657984	247 W	OR
Port na Cuidhe Bige <i>port of the little enclosure</i> G cuidhe, f, a loan from ON kví, f, 'enclosure'.	[,pɔʃtnə ˈkʰuiə ˈbikə]	NL651974	247 W	OR
Port na Glen Sannox <i>port of the 'Glen Sannox'</i> The 'Glen Sannox' was a ship.	[,pɔʃtnə ˌɡlɛn ˈsanɔks]	NL657982	247 W	OR
Port na h-Aibhne <i>port of the river</i>	[,pɔʃtnə ˈhainjɔ]	NL681972	247 W	OR
Port na h-Àirde <i>port of the promontory</i>	[,pɔʃtnə ˈhɑːR̥dʲə]	NL666982	247 W	OR
Port na h-Uidhe <i>port of the isthmus</i> See Uidh.	[,pɔʃtnə ˈhuiʃ]	NL649963	247 W	OR
Port na Làireach <i>harbour of the mare</i> "This name had something to do with the people cleared from Fuday. They landed over there in Port na Làireach and they had a horse and all their possessions in the boat." Neil MacNeil	[,pɔʃtnə ˈLɑːrax]	NF724026	231 W	OR

Port na Lice <i>port of the flagstone</i>	[,pɔʃtnə 'l'ɪçkʲə]	NF637007	231 W	OR
Port na Mnà <i>port of the woman</i> The body of a woman was washed ashore at this place.	[,pɔʃtnə 'mr̩ː]	NF717011	231 W	OR
Port na Queen <i>port of the 'Queen'</i> 'Queen' was the name of a ship.	[,pɔʃtnə 'kwɪːn]	NF724021	231 W	OR
Port na Sgotha <i>port of the boat</i> G sgoth, m, a loan from ON skúta, f, 'skiff', 'boat'.	[,pɔʃtnə 'sk'ɔː]	NF666050	231 W	OR
Port na Teileagraf <i>port of the telegraph (cable)</i> G teileagraf is a borrowing from Eng. telegraph.	[,pɔʃtnə 't'eləɡraf]	NL687974	247 W	OR
Port nam Marbh <i>harbour of the dead</i> 1823 Portnamura	[,pɔʃtnə 'mɑːrəv]	NL662981	247 W	OS6""
Port nan Eun <i>port of the birds</i>	[,pɔʃtnə 'Niːən]	NF752020	231 W	OR
Port nan Eun <i>port of the birds</i>	[,pɔʃtnə 'Niːən]	NF707043	231 W	OR
Port nan Eun <i>port of the birds</i>	[,pɔʃtnə 'Niːən]	NF657041	231 W	OR
Port Nill <i>Neil's port</i>	[,pɔʃt 'Niːl]	NF721028	231 W	OR
Port Nill Mhurchaidh <i>port of Neil (of) Murdoch</i>	[,pɔʃt 'Niːl'vuruxi]	NL657987	247 W	OR
Port Nill Sheumais <i>port of Neil (of) James</i>	[,pɔʃt 'Niːl'heːmɪʃ]	NL657984	247 W	OR
Port Phàdraig <i>Patrick's port</i> 1874 Port Patrick	[,pɔʃt 'fɑːdrɪk]	NF726019	231 W	AD
Port Phassel <i>port of Passel</i> 'Passel' was the nickname for Angus MacKinnon.	[,p'ɔʃtə 'fɑːsl]	NL654980	247 W	OR
Port Raghnaill Mhóir	[,pɔʃt 'Røəl'voːr]	NF715018	231 W	OR

Big Ronald's port

Port Ruairidh Iain Mhóir <i>port of Roderick of Big John</i>	[ˌpɔʃt ˈRuəri ˌiən ˈvo:r]	NF717009	231 W	OR
Port Ruairidh Néill Ruaidh <i>port of Roderick of red-haired Neil</i>	[ˌpɔʃt ˈRuəri ˌNēɪl ˈRuəj]	NL657982	247 W	OR
Port Sheumaidh <i>Jamie's port</i> Alias: Port Iagan Néill	[ˌpɔʃt ˈhe:mi]	NL656987	247 W	OR
Port Sheumais Annag <i>port of James (of) Anna</i>	[ˌpɔʃt ˈhe:mif ˈanək]	NL654980	247 W	OR
Port Taigh a' Mhàil <i>port of T.</i> Alias: Port Don See Taigh a' Mhàil.	[ˌpɔʃ ˌtʰə ˈvā:ɪl]	NL654983	247 W	OR
Presbytery	[ˈpresbitəri]	NF708031	231 S	OS
Queen Victoria Rock A rock which seen from a particular angle looks like Queen Victoria.	[ˈkwin ˌvikˈtɔ:riə ˈrɒk]	NF694033	231 R	OR
Raon nan Éireannach <i>field of the Irishmen</i> Lachlan and Belle MacLean locate this name at NF656015.	[ˌRɔ:nən ˈe:reNax]	NF653017	231 F	OR
Rathad Gleann Dorcha <i>road of the dark valley</i> G rathad, m, a loan from MEng. roade, 'road'.	[ˈRɑ-ət ˌɡlˈɛʊn ˈdɔrɔxɔ]	NF700021	231 O	OR
Réidh Fhlodaigh <i>level ground, plain of F.</i> See Flodday.	[ˌRe: ˈLɔdɑ]	NF749019	231 R	OR
Rhue <i>promontory</i> Alias: Rubha nam Boc, Glenlots	[ˌRu:]	NL668982	247 R	OS
Riagimull 1823 - The generic is derived from ON múli, m, 'headland'. The specific is not identified.		NL634938	247 R	ML
Roc Eachainn Mhóir <i>Big Hector's sunken, tangle-grown rock</i>	[ˈRɔxk ˌɛaxaɪn ˈvo:r]	NL730991	247 U	OR
Rosinish <i>headland of the horse</i> 1823 Ruroshinish, 1846 Ruroshinish	[ˈRɔʃɪnɪʃ]	NL615872	260 R	OS*

Alias: Rubha Pabach

A combination of ON hrosr, n, 'horse' and ON nes, n, 'headland'.

Rosscraig ['Rɔsk'rek'] NL554979 247 R OS6"

rock of Ross

Alias: Creag an Rosaich

A lightkeeper from Mull fell over this cliff which was then named after him.

Ru' Liath House NF708005 231 S SH

Only three houses in Barra carry names that made their way onto maps. In contrast to Eoligarry House and Vatersay House to which there are various references, Ru' Liath House is mentioned only on Sharbau's estate plan. As no pronunciation of this name was available it is uncertain whether Sharbau's entry is correct. There is Rubha Liath, the 'grey headland' close by. However, the house is not located on the headland but further inland close to the settlement Ruleos and could possibly be 'Ruleos House'. As Dwelly (1901:587) lists G leus, m, 'flame', 'light', 'fir-candle', 'torch used at night' for the specific, 'Ruleos House' may alternatively be translated as 'house at beacon point', or, taking it even a step further, have been the house in which a light burned at night to ease navigation.

Ru-Fear-Vatersay ['Ru: fɛr 'v'ah'təʃɛi] NL686973 247 R OS*

promontory of the tacksman of Vatersay

1865 Ru na Vatersay

Alias: An Rubha Dubh

Ruadh-Phort ['Ruəfuʃt'] NF761051 231 W OS*

red port

1874 Red Port

Rubh' a' Bhoidich [Ruə 'vuidiç] NF717039 231 R OR

Boyd's promontory

Rubh' a' Chaolais [Ruə 'xɑ:li] NF749019 231 R OS*

promontory of the strait

1874 Ru Caolas

Rubh' a' Charaidh [Ruə 'xɑri] NL655986 247 R OR

promontory of the fish-trap

Rubh' a' Chàrnain [Ruə 'xɑ:ɾ̥n̥an] NL606868 260 R OS*

promontory of the stony ground

1823 Ruchaman

Rubh' a' Mhoraire [Ruə 'vɑ:ɾ̥ər̥ɔ̃] NF666049 231 R OR

promontory of Marcus / the laird

Alias: Rubha Chliaid, Rubha Shandaidh

The name contains the nickname of the man who used to live in the house closest to the point. His nickname refers to his employer of whom he spoke so frequently that locals eventually called him by his employer's name.

Rubh' a' Mhorbhuile NL685943 247 R OS

promontory of the miracle

Alias: Miracal Point

Ronald Black suggests the correct spelling as Rubha na Miorbhaile.

Rubh' Àir' na Craobhaig <i>promontory of the shieling of the little tree</i> Alias: Rubh' Àirigh nan Cruach	[,Ru ,ɑ:Rnə 'k'rɑ:vak]	NF721032	231 R	OR
Rubh' Àird nan Capall <i>promontory of A.</i> 1823 Airdnacaple See Ard nan Capuill.	[,Ru ,ɑ:Rdnə ŋ'gəhpəl]	NL571851	260 R	OR
Rubh' Aird-Laogh <i>promontory of the height of the calf / calves</i> 1865 Ru Ardloigh Alias: Rubha Bheàrlais	[,Ru ,ɑ:Rd 'lui]	NL617971	247 R	OS*
Rubh' Àirigh Eòin <i>promontory of Jonathan's shieling</i>	[,Ru ,ɑ:Ri e'auin]	NF717009	231 R	OR
Rubh' Àirigh nan Cruach <i>promontory of the shieling of the stacks</i> Alias: Rubh' Àr' na Craobhaig	[,Ru ,ɑ:Rinə 'k'ruax]	NF721032	231 R	OR
Rubh' Alainis <i>promontory of A.</i> 1823 Rullanish, 1865 - Alias: Allanish The OS use the simplex form Allanish. See Allanish.	[,Ru 'alɑnɪʃ]	NL593881	260 R	ML
Rubh' an Aiseig <i>promontory of the ferry</i> 1874 Ferry Point, 1878 Rudh' na Aiseig, 1901 Ferry Point	[,Ruə 'nafik]	NF735028	231 R	OS*
Rubh' an Droma <i>promontory of the ridge</i> 1823 Ruandrana, 1901 Ru' Andrana	[,Ruən 'dɾuma]	NL571831	260 R	OS*
Rubh' an Eich <i>promontory of the horse</i>	[,Ruə 'neç]	NL605900	247 R	OR
Rubh' an Éireannaich 1901 Irishman's Point <i>promontory of the Irishman</i>	[,Ruə 'Ne:rənɪç]	NF651021	231 R	OR
Rubh' an Pheudail <i>promontory of the cattle</i> 1874 Cattle Point	[,Ru-ən 'jedal]	NL633979	247 R	OS*
Rubh' an Iolla <i>promontory of the fishing rock (?)</i>	[,Ruə 'niəlɔ̃]	NL657982	247 R	OR

G iolla has the meaning of 'fishing-rock covered at high tide' and 'sight', 'view'. As this place-name is located on low-lying ground the meaning of fishing-rock appeared more appropriate.

Rubh' an t-Sacaidh <i>loading point</i>	[,Ruən 't'axki]	NL633925	247 R	OR
Rubh' an t-Sealastair <i>promontory of the iris</i>	[,Ruən 'dʒɛləsdər]	NL657981	247 R	OR
Rubh' an t-Seana Bhalla <i>promontory of the old village</i> 1874 Old Wall Point	[,Ruən dʒɛnə 'vəlʃ]	NF747042	231 R	OS*
Rubh' an t-Sìth <i>peace point</i> 1865 Peace Point	[,Ruən 'fi:]	NL567805	260 R	OS*
Rubh' an t-Sluic <i>promontory of the gully</i>	[,Ruən 't'luɪçk]	NL558844	260 R	OR
Rubh' an Todhair <i>promontory of the seaweed</i>	[,Ru-ən 't'ðər]	NL667981	247 R	OR
Rubh' Àrnamul <i>promontory of A.</i> See Arnamul.	[,Ru 'ɑ:Rŋəmʊl]	NL548828	260 R	OR
Rubh' MhicFhearchair <i>MacFarquhar's promontory</i> This primary name was extracted from Càrn Rubh' MhicFhearchair.	[,Ruviçk 'ɛraxər]	NF749023	231 R	OR
Rubh' na h-Urchrach <i>promontory of the bow-shot</i> G urchrach also means 'cast', 'throw' and 'projectile'.	[,Runə 'hurəxrɔ̃x]	NF715018	231 R	OR
Rubha Bheanais <i>promontory of the straight headland</i> Alias: Bannish, Wedding Point See Bannish.	[,Ru-ə 'væniʃ]	NL548819	260 R	OR
Rubha Bheannachan <i>promontory of B.</i> See Am Beannachan.	[,Ru-ə 'væNaxən]	NL644958	247 R	OR
Rubha Bheàrlais <i>promontory + ?</i> Alias: Rubh' Aird-Laogh John Allan MacNeil locates this place-name at NL629721. The second element occurs also in the versions of Varnish and Vialish.	[,Ru-ə 'vɑ:Rliʃ]	NL617971	247 R	OR
Rubha Brinigeo		NL615959	247 R	SH

promontory of the gully of ?

The only source for this name is Sharbau's estate plan from 1901. Both the meaning of the specific and the pronunciation of the name are uncertain.

Rubha Carraig nan Coineanach [Ru-ə ,k'aræknə ɲɔ̃ɲjeNɔ̃x] NF720040 231 R OR

promontory of the fishing rock of the rabbits

G coineanach, m, a loan from MEng. cunin, 'rabbit', 'coney'.

Rubha Carraig-Chrom [Ru-ə ,kaRi 'k'rɔm] NF744085 231 R OS*
promontory of the sloping fishing rock
1874 Ru Carraig Crom

Rubha Chailein [Ru-ə 'xalain] NL704989 247 R OR
Colin's promontory

Rubha Chârais [Ru-ə 'xɑ:riʃ] NF765041 231 R OR
promontory of C.
See Carrish.

Rubha Chârnain [Ru-ə 'xɑ:R̥ɲan] NL674971 247 R OS*
promontory of the stony ground
1865 Ru Carnan
The OS wrongly located this place name wrongly at NL684969. The above mentioned NGR is correct.

Rubha Chârnain [Ru-ə 'xɑ:R̥ɲan] NF724026 231 R OS
promontory of the stony ground

Rubha Chârnain [Ru-ə 'xɑ:R̥ɲan] NF723025 231 R AD
promontory of the stony ground
1823 Rucharna, 1874 Ru Carnan
Alias: Lower Bruernish
Rubha Chârnain is the collective term for Lower Bruernish.

Rubha Chlâra [Ru-ə 'xla:ra] NF720060 231 R OR
promontory of the 'Clara'
The 'Clara' was a boat.

Rubha Chliaid [Ru-ə 'xliat'] NF666049 231 R OR
promontory of C.
Alias: Rubha Shandaidh, Rubh' a' Mhoraire
See Cleat.

Rubha Chordail [Ru-ə 'xɔrdəl] NF730075 231 R ML
promontory of C.
1823 Ruchordale
See Cordale.

Rubha Dhòmhnaill [Ru-ə 'ɣɔ̃-əl] NF722023 231 R OR
Donald's promontory

- Rubha Dhonnaig** [Ru ,ɑ:ɾd 'ɔNak] NF718042 231 R ML
promontory of ?
 1823 Ruardonna
 Alias: Rubha Fada.
 The specific may possibly be associated with G donnag, f, 'large kind of cockle' or 'hosefish' (see Dwelly, 1901:352) or possibly with G donnach 'shellfish in sand, thick shelled like clam' (see McDonald, 1953:102) as the place is located on the south side of the Tràigh Mhór. Less likely are derivations from 'brown cow' (Armstrong's Gaelic Dictionary, quoted in Dwelly) or 'brown-haired woman' (Highland Society's Gaelic Dictionary, also quoted in Dwelly).
- Rubha Domhain** [Ru-ə 'dɔ̃van] NL573837 260 R OS*
steep promontory
 1865 Steep Point
- Rubha Eilean nan Lethein** [Ru-ə ,el'ɛNə 'Læ̃n] NF734005 231 R OR
promontory of E.
 See Eilean nan Leighin.
- Rubha Fada** [Ru-ə 'fadɔ̃] NF718042 231 R OS*
long promontory
 1823 Rufada
 Alias: Rubha Dhonnaig
- Rubha Ghralish** [Ru-ə 'grɑ:lɪʃ] NL562793 260 R OS
hostile (?) promontory
 G rubha, m, 'promontory' is combined with possibly the ON adj. gráligr 'hostile'. The third element may be ON nes, n, 'headland'.
- Rubha Ghunadail** [Ru-ə 'ɣuNədəl] NL661961 247 R ML
promontory of G.
 1823 Rughunidal
 G rubha, m, 'promontory' is combined with an unknown element followed by the gaelicized form of ON dalr, m, 'valley'. The obscure element may be derived from the ON m personal name Hundi.
- Rubha Glas** [Ru-ə 'g̊Las] NL654974 247 R OS*
grey-green promontory
 1865 Ru Glass, 1901 Ru' Glas
- Rubha Greotach** [Ru-ə 'grɛɔ:tɔ̃x] NL589871 260 R OS
gravelly promontory
 1901 Rubh' na Greod
 The specific originates from ON grjót, n, 'gravel'.
- Rubha Heilinis** [Ru-ə 'hæLɛNɪʃ] NL633935 247 R OR
promontory of H.
 See Heillanish.
- Rubha Holisgeir** [Ru-ə 'hɔlɪʃk'er] NL625983 247 R OR
promontory of H.

See Holisgeir.

Rubha Hornish <i>promontory of H.</i> 1823 Ardvuran, 1874 Ru Hornish, 1878 Hornish See Hornish.	[,Ru-ə 'hɔ̃ɾɲɪʃ]	NF734097	231 R	ML
Rubha Leathann <i>broad promontory</i>	[,Ru-ə 'L'æhən]	NF631003	231 R	OR
Rubha Liath <i>grey-blue promontory</i>	[,Ru-ə 'Liə]	NL550814	260 R	OS
Rubha Liath <i>grey-blue promontory</i> 1874 Grey Point	[,Ru-ə 'Liə]	NF717005	231 R	OS*
Rubha Liath <i>grey-blue promontory</i> 1823 Rulia	[,Ru-ə 'Liə]	NF635005	231 R	ML
Rubha Mhadasdail <i>promontory of M.</i> See Maddasdale.	[,Ru-ə 'vadəsɔ̃dəl]	NF741093	231 R	OR
Rubha Mhicheil <i>promontory of Michael</i> 1865 Michael Point, 1874 Michaels Point	[,Ru-ə 'vi:çəl]	NF732017	231 R	OS*
Rubha MhicThòmaidh <i>Thomson's promontory</i>	[,Ruviç 'k'ɔ̃:mi]	NF721029	231 R	OR
Rubha Mór <i>big promontory</i> 1865 Ru Mor	[,Ru-ə 'mo:r]	NL695974	247 R	OS*
Rubha na Lydia <i>promontory of the 'Lydia'</i>	[,Ru-ənə 'Lidia]	NF650033	231 R	OR
Rubha na Cailliche <i>promontory of the old woman</i>	[,Ru-ənə 'k'aliçə]	NL694984	247 R	OR
Rubha na Feadaig <i>promontory of the plover</i> 1823 Runafedaig	[,Ru-ənə 'fedak]	NF722037	231 R	ML
Rubha na Feannaig <i>promontory of the crow</i>	[,Ru-ənə 'fænak]	NL559815	260 R	OR
Rubha na h-Acairseid <i>promontory of the anchorage</i>	[,Ru-ənə 'haxkiʃatʃ]	NF736012	231 R	OS*

1823 Runackersit, 1874 Harbour Point
See An Acarsaid.

Rubha na h-Àirigh <i>promontory of the shieling</i> 1823 Runaharie	[Ru-ənə 'hɑ:ɾi]	NF716025	231 R	ML
Rubha na h-Uamh <i>promontory of the cave</i>	[Ru-ənə 'huãv]	NF723009	231 R	OR
Rubha na h-Uamh <i>promontory of the cave</i> Annie and Archibald MacKinnon locate this place-name at NF760032.	[Ru-ənə 'huãv]	NF765032	231 R	OS
Rubha na h-Uamh Bige <i>promontory of the little cave</i>	[Ru-ənə 'huãv 'bʲigʲ]	NF751037	231 R	OR
Rubha na h-Urchrach <i>promontory of the bow-shot</i>	[Ru-ənə 'hurəxɾax]	NF756039	231 R	OR
Rubha na Maighdein <i>promontory of the maiden</i> 1874 Maiden Point, 1901 Maidens Point Jonathan MacNeil and Ronald MacKinnon locate this promontory at NF744018. G maighdean, f, a loan from MEng. magden, 'maiden'.	[Ru-ənə 'møiɕən]	NF742019	231 R	OS*
Rubha na Mòna <i>promontory of the peat</i>	[Ru-ənə 'mɔ:ɳ]	NL606898	260 R	OR
Rubha na Muireart <i>promontory of the height of the sea</i> 1823 Runamurat, 1865 Ru na Mhuireart Alternatively it is possible that the specific is muilgheartach/muireardach, the 'sea hag', the goddess figure who dominates the sea and who is celebrated in the Ossianic Duan na Muilgheartaich. See Dwelly, 1901:679.	[Ru-ənə 'muirərt]	NF772041	231 R	OS*
Rubha na Tobhtaig <i>promontory of the little ruin</i> 1878 Rudh' nan Tobhtag, 1878 Tota Point See An Tobhta.	[Ru-ənə 't'oʰtak]	NF752038	231 R	OR
Rubha nam Basadairean <i>promontory of the holes in soft ground</i> 1823 Runambasaderan, 1874 Ru Basidearin, 1878 Basadearn Point Jonathan MacNeil locates this name at NF750047.	[Ru-ənəm 'basdɛrən]	NF753038	231 R	AD
Rubha nam Boc <i>promontory of the bucks</i> Alias: Rhue, Glenlots	[Ru-ənəm 'bɔxk]	NL668982	247 R	OR
Rubha nam Marbh	[Ru-ənə 'mɑ-rav]	NL646964	247 R	ML

promontory of the dead

1823 Runamarbh

Rubha nan Carraig [Ru-ənən 'k'arik'] NL616960 247 R OR

promontory of the fishing rocks

1901 Ru' na Carig

John Allan MacNeil gives a slightly different location at NL622958.

Rubha nan Druidean [Ru-ənən'druɕən] NF715022 231 R OR

promontory of the starlings

A possible alternative location is NF723023.

Rubha nan Eun [Ru-ənə 'ni:an] NF733075 231 R OS*

promontory of the birds

1823 Runachragamull, 1874 Birds Point

Rubha nan Sléibh [Ru-ənən 'sle:ɟ] NL646948 247 R OR

promontory of the moorland

Rubha nan Spàinteach [Ru-ənə 'spā:ntjax] NF767044 231 R OR

promontory of the Spaniards

Rubha Pabach [Ruə 'fapiɕ] NL615872 260 R OR

Pabbay point

Alias: Rosinish

This place is located on Pabbay. See Pabbay.

Rubha Phabach [Ruə fapax] NL640904 247 R OR

point of the Pabbay men (?)

1823 Ard Phabbach

Alias: Aird Pabbach

This place is located on Sandray facing Pabbay. It may have been the landing-place of the Pabbay men. See Pabbay.

Rubha Port a' Bhualte [Ru ,pɔʃtə 'vualtjə] NL687975 247 W ML

promontory of P.

1823 Ruportvualt

See Port a' Bhualte.

Rubha Port an Duine [Ru ,pɔʃtən 'dʌNɔ̃] NL676971 247 R OR

promontory of P.

See Port an Duine.

Rubha Roinich [Ru-ə 'Rɔ̃Niɕ] NL702989 247 R OR

promontory of the fern

Rubha Shandaidh [Ru-ə 'handi] NF666049 231 R OR

Alexander's promontory

Alias: Rubha Chliaid, Rubh' a' Mhoraire

Rubha Shiader [Ru-ə 'hiadər] NL628923 247 R OS*

promontory of S.

1823 Ruhiader, 1901 Ru' Iar

See Sheader.

Rubha Slétta [Ru-ə 'sle:tfə] NL554844 260 R OR

promontory of the plain

Alias: Rubha Shunna

A combination of G rubha, m, 'promontory' and ON slétta, f, 'plain', 'level area'.

Rubha Sluic [Ru-ə 'sluiçk] NL554844 260 R OR

promontory of the gully

1901 Douglas Point

Rubha Taigh a' Mhàil [Ru t'øjə 'vã:l] NL654983 247 R OR

promontory of T.

See Taigh a' Mhàil.

Rubha Shunna [Ru-ə 'hunɔ̃] NL554844 260 R OR

promontory + ?

Alias: Rubha Slétta

The meaning of the specific is obscure.

Ruins of church NF703067 231 A OR

Ruleos [Ru'liəs] NF708009 231 S OS*

beacon point

1823 Ruliess, 1828 Ruelias

Dwelly (1901:587) lists G leus, m, 'flame', 'light', 'fir-candle', 'torch used at night'.

Sago Point NF634004 231 R SH

This name is a historic form found on H. Sharbau's estate plan from 1901.

Saltinish ['sɔltiniʃ] NF711082 231 F OS*

salt headland

1823 Saltnis

A combination of ON salt, n, 'salt', and ON nes, n, 'headland'.

Sanderling ['sændərliŋ] NF711071 231 S OS

As a house name, this is likely to be a recent creation, and may not be derived from ON sandr, m, 'sand'.

Sandray ['saundrɛi] NL640914 247 I OS*

sand island

1549 Sanderay, 1654 Sandrera, 1764 Sandera, 1794a Sanderay, 1794b Sandera, 1823 Saundray, 1824 Sandera, 1845 Sanderay, 1846 Saundray, 1848 Sanderay, 1854 Sandera, 1865 Saundray

Borgstrøm dismisses the idea of translating this name as 'sand island' since this form would require an 's'-genitive. He suggests ON sand-rif(a)-ey, 'island of the sand reefs' (Campbell, 1936:290). However, a derivation from the pl. form of ON sandar, 'the sands' and ON øy, f, 'island' is possible and would result in this short form as a result of contraction.

Scalavaslain <i>rock of V.</i> 1823 Scallvaslan Sharbau's estate plan from 1901 locates Scallvaslan at the shore and indicates the site of a hill called <i>Scalla</i> at the above NGR. See Vaslain.	[sk'ala 'va:slən]	NF687057	231 R	OS*
School	['sku:l]	NF657019	231 S	OS
School	['sku:l]	NL660985	247 S	OS
School	['sku:l]	NL696991	247 S	OS
School House	['sku:l ,haus]	NL636955	247 S	OS
Scotagearraidh This settlement is said to have been cleared within 24 hours. The generic is derived from ON <i>gerði</i> , n, 'enclosure', 'fenced field', 'garden'. The specific, however, is uncertain. It may be derived from G <i>sgot</i> , m, 'small farm' or 'small flock', which combined with the above generic results in 'enclosure of the small flock' or 'enclosure of the small farm'. And, indeed, this area used to be settled. Nevertheless the word order with the generic in final position points at an ON specific. Heggstad (1930:610) lists the ON noun <i>skot</i> , n, 'projectile', 'shot'. Eysteinnsson derives the specific of the Harris place-name Scotasay from ON <i>skot</i> , 'neuk', 'corner', which would also apply to the location of this name. There is a place called Skotet in Stordal, Norway, (see Rygh, <i>Norske Gaardnavne</i> 13) which is located on a high projecting promontory. Scotagearraidh, too, is located on a high-lying headland. As all interpretations would be suitable it remains unclear which is the correct one.	['sk'ɔ'h'təgaRi]	NF711004	231 S	OR
Scurrival <i>hill of ?</i> 1825 Skervall, 1827 Skirvall, 1829 Skirval Borgstrøm derives this name from the ON <i>Skaga-rif-fjall</i> (Borgstrøm, 1937: 292), 'hill near the reef of the promontory'. According to him the name may have undergone strong contraction. A descriptive name for this important shipping mark appears logical. However, there is the ON name <i>Skorri</i> , which in its genitive case becomes <i>Skorra</i> resulting in the possible translation 'Skorri's hill'. A third interpretation hints at a link with ON <i>skor</i> , f, 'prominent hill', which Scurrival indeed describes. A fourth possible interpretation is to derive the specific from ON <i>skor</i> , f, 'cleft', of which ON <i>skora</i> is the genitive pl., which would translate as 'hill of the clefts', which, too, would make sense in this context. (See Eysteinnsson, 1992:14.)	['skʊɾiʋal]	NF700092	231 S	OR
Scurrival Point <i>point of S.</i> Gob Scuireabhal, the G translation of Scurrival Point, is the name locally used for this place. See Scurrival.	['skʊɾiʋal'point]	NF694096	231 R	OS
Seal Bay Alias: Am Bàgh, Bàgh nan Ròn	['si:l ,be:]	NF655040	231 W	OR
Seann Àirigh <i>old shieling</i>	[.ʃeʊn 'ɑ:Ri]	NL657999	247 F	OR

Seann Fhaing <i>old fold</i> Alias: An Gearraidh Ùr	[.ʃeʊN 'æŋ]	NF693004	231 E	OR
Séige <i>bent grass (?)</i>	[.ʃe:ɡɔ̃]	NF647021	231 V	OR
Seuthar a' Chrochaire <i>chair of the hangman</i> Seuthar is the gaelicized form of Eng. chair.	[.ʃæ:rə 'xɾɔxərə]	NF657024	231 R	OR
Seuthar an Fhuamhaire <i>the giant's chair</i> See Seuthar a' Chrochaire.	[.ʃæ:rə 'Nu:ərɔ̃]	NL674975	247 R	OR
Sgeir 'ic an Léigh <i>Livingstone's skerry</i> 1865 Sg. Nick-a-ne, 1901 Sgeirnickane	[.sk'er'ɪçkə 'Leɪ]	NL668969	247 I	AD
Sgeir 'ic Sheòrais <i>skerry of the son of George</i>	[.sk'er'ɪçk 'xɔ:riʃ]	NL703991	247 I	OR
Sgeir 'Icilleathain <i>MacLean's skerry</i> 1865 Sgeir Vichalea Alias: The Perch, Sgeir Feannaig, Am Botch	[.sk'er'ɪçki 'Læ'hən]	NL645951	247 I	AD
Sgeir 'icPhàil <i>MacPhail's skerry</i>	[.sk'er'ɪçk 'fɑ:l]	NF650012	231 I	OR
Sgeir a Tuath <i>north skerry</i>	[.sk'er'ə 't'uɔ̃]	NF715079	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Bhàigh <i>skerry of the bay</i>	[.sk'er'ə 'vāɪj]	NL655984	247 I	OR
Sgeir a' Bhoiler <i>skerry of the boiler</i> Alias: Sgeir Onorach, Sgeir a' Phòla The specific is English.	[.sk'er'ə 'vɔilər]	NF717031	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Chaolais Dheirg <i>skerry of the red sound</i>	[.sk'er'ə ,xɑ:lɪʃ 'jɛRak]	NL683943	247 I	OR
Sgeir a' Chìdh' <i>skerry of the quay</i> G cidhe, m, is a loan from Eng. quay.	[.sk'er'ə 'çi:]	NF715076	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Chìrein <i>skerry of the cock's comb</i> Alias: Sgeir an t-Salainn, Bird Rock, Na Cìreanan	[.sk'er'ə 'çī:rən]	NL552798	260 I	OR

Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh <i>skerry of the sword</i> 1823 Skerachlaimh	[sk'er'ə 'xlai-u]	NL650937	247 I	ML
Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh <i>skerry of the sword</i>	[sk'er'ə 'xlai-u]	NF767040	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh <i>skerry of the sword</i>	[sk'er'ə 'xlai-u]	NF650045	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Chlogaid <i>skerry of the helmet</i> 1823 Skerachlagait, 1901 Sgeir a Togall The location of Sgeir a' Chlogaid as indicated by the OS is incorrect. The NGR given above describes the correct position of this place-name. Dwelly (1901:211) describes G clogaid, f, as 'helmet', 'headpiece', 'pyramid' and 'headpiece of a stack of corn'.	[sk'er'ə 'xlɔɡat']	NL650936	247 I	ML
Sgeir a' Gheòidh <i>skerry of the goose</i> 1874 Goose Rocks, 1901 Goose Rock	[sk'er'ə 'giɔi]	NF743081	231 I	OR*
Sgeir a' Lydia <i>skerry of the 'Lydia'</i> 'Lydia' was the name of a ship that was wrecked at this point.	[sk'er'ə 'lidia]	NF653035	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Mhiriceil <i>skerry of A.</i> Alias: Sgeir an t-Sil See A' Mhiriceil.	[sk'er'ə 'virikəl]	NF736013	231 I	OR
Sgeir a' Mhùin <i>urinating skerry</i> It is possible that the waves wash over this rock creating a sound as if someone was urinating.	[sk'er'ə 'vūiːN]	NL648959	247 I	OR
Sgeir a' Phòla <i>skerry of the pole</i> Alias: Sgeir Onorach, Sgeir a' Bhoiler G pòla is an adaptation from Eng. pole.	[sk'er'ə 'fo:lɔ]	NF717031	231 I	OR
Sgeir an Deasaich <i>skerry of the southerner</i> G deasach is a term for a person from the Firth of Clyde.	[sk'er'ən 'd̪eːsiç]	NF715043	231 I	OR
Sgeir an Donais <i>skerry of the devil</i>	[sk'er'ən 'd̪ɔniʃ]	NL658955	247 I	OR
Sgeir an Eich <i>skerry of the horse</i>	[sk'er'ə 'neç]	NF731030	231 I	OR
Sgeir an Eilein Mhóir	[sk'er'ə ,Nel'ɛN 'võːr]	NL656907	247 I	OR

skerry of E.

See Eilean Mór.

Sgeir an Fhaing [sk'er'ə 'Næŋ] NL637975 247 I OR
skerry of the fold

Sgeir an Fhéidh [sk'er'ə 'Nje:] NL715999 247 I ML
skerry of the deer
1823 Skeraneigh, 1874 Deer Rock
Alias: Am Bogha Tàmh

Sgeir an Fhuil [sk'er'ə 'Nu:l] NL736998 247 I OR
skerry of ?

At one time seals were slaughtered on this skerry. The OS name, Sgeir Fiaclach Mór, for this location is wrong. If the name was translated as 'skerry of the blood', its correct G form would be Sgeir na Fala as the gen. case of G fuil, 'blood' is fala. The phonetics, however, indicating a long vowel /u:/ make a derivation from f(h)uil impossible. A derivation from G ubhal, m, 'apple', is phonetically possible but from a semantic point of view rather doubtful as the place is far too exposed to have any kind of tree grow there.

Sgeir an t-Salainn [sk'er'ən 't'alaN] NL552798 260 I OR
salt skerry
Alias: Bird Rock, Sgeir a' Chirein, Na Cìreanan

Sgeir an t-Salainn [sk'er'ən 't'alaN] NL601882 260 T ML
salt skerry
1823 Skerant, 1901 Sgeir Antallin
The 1823 entry shows only the first part of this place-name, the specific has been forgotten.

Sgeir an t-Sil [sk'er'ən 'tʃil] NF736013 231 I OR
skerry of the seed / sprats
Alias: Sgeir a' Mhiriceil

Sgeir an t-Srutha [sk'er'ən 't'ru:] NL656979 247 I OR
skerry of the current

Sgeir an Tairbh [sk'er'ən 'tʃrəv] NF743054 231 I ML
skerry of the bull
1823 Skerantairbh
Alias: Bogh' an Tairbh, Am Bogha Carach

Sgeir Bheag Horgh [sk'er' ,væk 'hərəv] NL662980 247 I OR
little skerry of H.
See Horough.

Sgeir Bheag na h-Àirde [sk'er' ,væk nə 'hɑɹdʲə] NL576798 260 I OR
little skerry of the promontory

Sgeir Bhioraghasdail [sk'er' 'vøɹəgasdəl] NL606964 247 I OR
skerry of (?) Bjørn's milking-place
Alias: Eilean nan Eun

ON sker, n, 'skerry', here in its G version is maybe followed by the ON personal name Björn and ON stǫðull, m, 'milking-place'.

Sgeir Choinnich <i>Kenneth's skerry</i>	[,sk'erə 'xɔ̃Niç]	NL700995	247 I	OR
Sgeir Choinnich <i>Kenneth's skerry</i>	[,sk'erə 'xɔ̃Niç]	NL655986	247 I	OR
Sgeir Chrisnain <i>Christopher's skerry</i> 1865 Christopher's Rock	[,sk'erə 'xRiʃnan]	NL547805	260 I	OS*
Sgeir Clann MhicEoghainn <i>skerry of Clan MacEwan</i>	[,sk'er' ,k'laʊNiçk ,e'auin]	NF725029	231 I	OR
Sgeir Dallaig <i>skerry of the dog-fish</i>	[,sk'er' 'd̪alak]	NL706990	247 I	OR
Sgeir Dhonnchaidh <i>Duncan's skerry</i>	[,sk'er' 'ɾuNaxi]	NF733003	231 I	OR
Sgeir Dubh <i>black skerry</i> 1865 Dubh Sgeir, 1901 Du Sgeir Alias: Dubhsgeir	[,sk'er' 'd̪u ^h]	NL667967	247 I	OS*
Sgeir Eachainn Cheàrdaich <i>Hector Sinclair's skerry</i>	[,sk'er' ɛ,axan 'çæ:əʃtiç]	NF748037	231 I	OR
Sgeir Earnais 1901 Sgeir Herlis <i>skerry of the eagle promontory</i> ON sker, n, 'skerry', here in G word order is followed by ON ȝrn, m, 'eagle' and ON nes, n, 'promontory'.	[,sk'er' 'ɛɾNiʃ]	NL648926	247 I	OR
Sgeir Feannaig <i>skerry of the crow</i> Alias: Sgeir 'IcillEathain, The Perch, Am Botch	[,sk'er' 'fæNak]	NL645951	247 I	OR
Sgeir Feannaig <i>skerry of the crow</i>	[,sk'er' 'fæNak]	NL637948	247 I	OR
Sgeir Feannaig <i>skerry of the crow</i>	[,sk'er' 'fæNak]	NF652032	231 I	OR
Sgeir Feannaig <i>skerry of the crow</i> Alias: A' Chlach Ghainmheineach	[,sk'er' 'fæNak]	NL696989	247 I	OR
Sgeir Fhaochag	[,sk'er' 'ʌ:xak]	NF705084	231 I	OR

skerry of the wheelks

Sgeir Fhlodaigh [sk'er' 'lɔdaj] NL614928 247 I OR
skerry of F.
 See Flodday.

Sgeir Fiaclach Beag [sk'er' iak' lax 'vøk] NL733996 247 I OS*
little toothed skerry
 1874 Little Teeth Rock
 The OS location of Sgeir Fiaclach Beag at NL732994 is wrong. Neil MacNeil provides the correct NGR.

Sgeir Fiaclach Mór [sk'er' iak' lax 'vo:r] NL732994 247 I OS*
big toothed skerry
 1874 Big Teeth Rock
 The OS location of Sgeir Fiaclach Mór at NL736998 is wrong. The island located at NL736998 is Sgeir an Fhuil.

Sgeir Ghadhalum [sk'er' 'gɑ-ɑlum] NL650938 247 I ML
 1823 Skerghaalum, 1901 Sgeir a' Challum
 The specific is likely to be Norse. The ending of the specific hints at a derivation from ON holmr, m, 'island'.

Sgeir Ghlas Dhrolum [sk'er' 'ɣlas 'ɣrolum] NF728022 231 I OR
grey-green skerry of D.
 Alias: An Sgeir Ghlas
 See Drolum.

Sgeir Ghlas Rubha Chàrnain [sk'er' ɣlas ɾuə 'xɑ:ɾɒnɑn] NF724027 231 I OR
grey-green skerry of R.
 Alias: An Sgeir Ghlas
 This name is also known under its abbreviated versions of An Sgeir Ghlas and Sgeir. See Rubha Chàrnain.

Sgeir Ghléidhteachais [sk'er' ɡle:h'texas] NL656987 247 I OR
skerry of caution
 A skerry to avoid. This skerry is not marked on the map.

Sgeir Holisgeir [sk'er' 'hɔlifk'er] NL625981 247 I OR
skerry of H.
 Alias: Bogha Ruadh a-staigh, Holisgeir
 See Holisgeir.

Sgeir Honish [sk'er' 'hɔnɪʃ] NL657954 247 I AD
skerry of ?
 1865 -

In its AD spelling the specific appears to be of ON origin with the second element derived from ON nes, 'headland'. As there is no further evidence of a headland with this name close by on the Isle of Vatersay, the specific could alternatively be an anglicized spelling of G donas, gen. case donais, 'devil', 'harm', 'bad luck', acting as an adjective. This would result in the translated form of 'the bloody rock', possibly designating a rock that was of nuisance to the locals. With so little evidence it is difficult to establish the correct semantics.

Sgeir Iain Cheàird <i>skerry of John the smith</i>	[,sk'er' ,i:aiN 'çæ:rft]	NF735005	231 I	OR
Sgeir Leehinish <i>skerry of L.</i> 1823 Skerlechinish, 1865 - See Leanish.	[,sk'er' Li-iniʃ]	NL653900	247 I	OS*
Sgeir Liath <i>grey-blue skerry</i> 1654 S kyr lia	[,sk'er' 'Liə]	NL649971	247 I	OS*
Sgeir Liath <i>grey-blue skerry</i> 1823 Skerlia, 1901 Sgarbh	[,sk'er' 'Liə]	NF650033	231 I	OS*
Sgeir Liath a Deas <i>grey-blue skerry of the south</i> Alias: Sgeir Liath Fhlodaigh	[,sk'er' ,Liə 'dʒəs]	NF755019	231 I	OR
Sgeir Liath a Deas <i>grey-blue skerry of the south</i>	[,sk'er' ,Liə 'dʒəs]	NL703986	247 I	OR
Sgeir Liath a Tuath <i>grey-blue skerry of the north</i> Alias: Sgeir Liath Fhlodaigh	[,sk'er' ,Liə 't'uð]	NF756026	231 I	OR
Sgeir Liath a Tuath <i>grey-blue skerry of the north</i> The skerry is attached to Rubha Rainich.	[,sk'er' ,Liə 't'uð]	NL704988	247 W	OR
Sgeir Liath a' Ghobha <i>grey-blue skerry of the blacksmith</i>	[,sk'er' ,Liə 'gʷo-ə]	NF702050	231 I	OR
Sgeir Liath Fhlodaigh <i>grey-blue skerry of F.</i> 1874 Grey Point Alias: Sgeir Liath a Deas See Flodday.	[,sk'er' ,Liə 'lɔdɑʃ]	NF755019	231 I	AD
Sgeir Lingeigh <i>skerry of L.</i> See Lingay-fhada.	[,sk'er' 'L'ɪŋgei]	NF736936	231 I	SH
Sgeir Meall na Hoe <i>skerry of the hill of the height</i> 1874 - The primary name Meall na Hoe is not specified in the chart of 1865. Its location remains uncertain.	[,sk'er' ,mjɑlnə 'ho:]	NF735061	231 I	AD

Sgeir MhicFhearchair <i>skerry of MacFarquhar</i>	[sk'er'ic̥k 'ɛraxər]	NF712038	231 I	OR
Sgeir Mhìogag <i>Mìag's skerry</i> 1874 Bo Mìagag	[sk'er' 'vī:gak]	NF735042	231 I	AD
Sgeir Mhór <i>big skerry</i> 1823 Skervore, 1865 Sgeirmore	[sk'er' 'vo:r]	NL567797	260 I	OS*
Sgeir Mhór <i>big skerry</i> 1823 Skarvore	[sk'er' 'vo:r]	NF710048	231 I	OS*
Sgeir Mhór Lingeigh Fhada <i>big skerry of L.</i> See Lingay-Fhada.	[sk'er' ,vo:r ,l'ĩŋgei 'ad̥]	NF726040	231 I	OR
Sgeir Mhór na Horgh <i>big skerry of H.</i> Alias: An Sgeir Mhór See Horough.	[sk'er' ,vo:r nə 'hɔrəɹ]	NL661980	247 I	OR
Sgeir Mhór Tràigh Chragain <i>big skerry of the rocky beach</i> Alias: An Sgeir Mhór See An Tràigh Chragain.	[sk'er' ,vo:r ,t'ra:j 'xRagain]	NF717068	231 I	OR
Sgeir Mollachdag <i>curse skerry</i> Fr. Allan McDonald mentions this place-name (1958). An alternative version is the plural form, Sgeirean Mollachdag. This name appears in Canna and in South Uist, too. The specific G mallachd, f, is a loan from Lat. maledictio, 'curse'.	[sk'er' 'mɔlɔxkag]	NF649051	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Cloiche <i>skerry of the stone</i> Alias: Eilean Ailig	[sk'er'nə 'k'loic̥ə]	NF715028	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Cloiche <i>skerry of the stone</i> Alias: Sgeir nan Clachan	[sk'er'nə 'k'loic̥ə]	NF717045	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Cuidhe <i>skerry of the enclosure</i> See A' Chuidhe.	[sk'er'nə 'k'ui̯ð]	NF658038	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Doirlinn <i>skerry of the headland</i>	[sk'er'nə 'd̥ɔ̯rl'ĩn]	NF651030	231 I	OR

Sgeir na Feannaig <i>skerry of the crow</i> 1823 Skernfeanaig Alias: An Comharradh	[sk'er'nə 'fæNak]	NF714067	231 T	ML
Sgeir na Friens <i>skerry of the 'Friens'</i> 'Friens' was the name of a ship that collided with the skerry which now carries its name. The spelling of the specific is uncertain.	[sk'er'nə 'frens]	NF729028	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Gobhair <i>skerry of the goat</i>	[sk'er'nə 'gɔər]	NL699982	247 I	OR
Sgeir na Hulk <i>skerry of the coaling hulk</i> A big wooden boat was used as a coaling hulk. The specific is English.	[sk'er'nə 'hɔlk]	NL655986	247 I	OR
Sgeir na Luinge <i>skerry of the ship</i>	[sk'er'nə 'Lɪ:ŋɔ]	NF730028	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Mnà <i>skerry of the woman</i>	[sk'er'nə 'mrā:]	NF718011	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Muice <i>skerry of the pig</i> 1865 Muck Reef Alias: A' Mhuc	[sk'er'nə 'mɯiɕk]	NL671951	247 I	OS*
Sgeir na Tràigh Tuath <i>skerry of T.</i> See Tràigh Tuath.	[sk'er'ən ,dra:t'ɯɔ]	NF651021	231 I	OR
Sgeir na Trithinn <i>trinity skerry</i> 1865 Sg na Treanne The skerry is not marked on the map. There is Sgeir an Trithinn (in Loch Torridon) which consists of three humps (see Dwelly, 1901:971). The specific 'trinity' links this name with other proto-religious names for dangerous rocks.	[sk'er'nə 'tri:ən]	NL652968	247 I	AD
Sgeir nam Faochag <i>skerry of the whelks</i> Alias: Sgeir nan Caorach	[sk'er'nə 'fɔ:xak]	NL633975	247 T	OR
Sgeir nan Caorach <i>sheep skerry</i> Alias: Sgeir nam Faochag	[sk'er'nə 'ŋgɔ:rɔx]	NL633974	247 T	OR
Sgeir nan Caorach <i>skerry of the sheep</i>	[sk'er'nə 'ŋgɔ:rɔx]	NL706993	247 I	OR

Sgeir nan Clachan <i>skerry of the stones</i> Alias: Sgeir na Cloiche	[sk'er'nə 'ŋɫaxan]	NF717045	231 I	OR
Sgeir nan Cruach <i>skerry of the stacks</i>	[sk'er'nə 'ŋɫruax]	NF708039	231 I	OR
Sgeir nan Cudaigean <i>skerry of the cuddies</i> Cuddies are immature coal fish. The skerry is not marked on the map.	[sk'er'nə 'k'udigən]	NL694988	247 I	OR
Sgeir nan Each <i>skerry of the horses</i>	[sk'er'nə 'Næx]	NL707997	247 I	OR
Sgeir nan Uibhein <i>skerry of the eggs</i> 1878 Egg Island, 1878 Sgeir na Uibhean, 1901 Egg Island	[sk'er'nə 'Nuiən]	NL577851	260 I	OS
Sgeir nan Ròn <i>skerry of the seals</i> 1865 Sg na Rhon	[sk'er'nə 'Rõ:N]	NL651964	247 I	AD
Sgeir nan Ròn <i>skerry of the seals</i> Alias: Outer Heisker, Heisker	[sk'er'nə 'Rõ:N]	NL573867	260 I	OR
Sgeir Néill an Tàilleir <i>skerry of Neil (son of) the tailor</i> Alias: Bogha Néill an Tàilleir, Sgeirean Sloc Ghleansaich G tàilllear, m, a loan from Eng. tailor.	[sk'er' ,Nē:lən 'ɫa:l'ər]	NL590876	260 I	OR
Sgeir Noddimull <i>skerry of N.</i> 1823 Sgerodimull, 1865 - See Noddimul in Knock Noddimul. The 1823 spelling suggests that the derivation of Noddimul is uncertain.	[sk'er' 'nɔdimul]	NL631911	247 T	OS*
Sgeir Onorach <i>distinguished / honest rock</i> Alias: Sgeir a' Phòla, Sgeir a' Bhoiler	[sk'er' 'ɔnɔrax]	NF717031	231 I	OR
Sgeir Remmish <i>skerry + ?</i> The OS maps do not mark a skerry at this location. The second element is obscure.	[sk'er' 'Rɛmɪʃ]	NL558814	260 I	OR
Sgeir Rife <i>cleft skerry</i> The specific is derived from ON rif, n, 'cleft'. There is a place called Rive in Aaremark and a place called Reve in Klepp, both in Norway.	[sk'er' 'Rifə]	NL704987	247 I	OR
Sgeir Robert	[sk'er' 'Rɔbərɪt]	NL654981	247 I	OR

Robert's skerry

The skerry is named after Robert Shearer who was stabbed to death in Edinburgh.

Sgeir Sheòrais [ˌsk'er' 'ʃe:ɔ:riʃ] NF730004 231 I OR
George's skerry

Sgeir Shnuasamail [ˌsk'er' Nu'asəmul] NL667954 247 I OR
skerry of S.
 Alias: Sgeir Smugaidean
 See Snuasimul.

Sgeir Sloc nan Calman [ˌsk'er' sloxknə 'ŋgɔlaman] NL699977 247 I OR
skerry of S.

Sgeir Smugaidean [ˌsk'er' 'smugəʒən] NL667954 247 I OR
skerry of spits
 Alias: Sgeir Shnuasamail
 The second element may describe the action of the waves when they hit the skerry.

Sgeire Chojak [ˌsk'er'ə 'xɔ:ʒak] NF745055 231 I OR
Kojak's skerry
 'Kojak' is a nickname.

Sgeirean Bàgh Chòrnaig [ˌskeran ˌbɑ 'xɔ:ɾɲik] NL638968 247 I OR
skerries of B.
 See Cornaig Bay.

Sgeirean Bean a' Mhinisteir [ˌsk'eran ˌbɛnə 'vɪnɪʃtər] NF656038 231 I OR
skerries of the wife of the minister
 G ministear is a loan from Lat. minister, 'servant', here 'minister'.

Sgeirean Cùil a' Bhaile [ˌsk'eran ˌk'u:lə 'valə] NL666978 247 I OR
skerries of C.
 Alias: Na Sgeirean
 See Cùil a' Bhaile.

Sgeirean Fiaclach [ˌsk'eran 'fiaklax] NL677945 247 I OS*
toothed skerries
 1865 Fhiacail, 1901 Sgeir Fhiacail

Sgeirean Màs a' Mhill [ˌsk'er'an ˌmāsə 'vɪ:l] NL657943 247 I OR
skerries of M.
 1865 Sg. Masameall, 1901 Sgeir Masameall
 Local crofters identify the OS entry of Masamuile in this location as wrong. The correct location of Màs a' Mhill is on the south-east end of Vatersay. See Màs a' Mhill.

Sgeirean Phattie [ˌsk'er'ən 'fati] NL654984 247 I OR
Pattie's skerries
 'Pattie' is a nickname.

Sgeirean Sloc Ghleansaich [ˌsk'eran ˌsloxk 'gʌlensiç] NL590876 260 I OR

skerries of S.

Alias: Sgeir Néill an Tàilleir, Bogha Néill an Tàilleir

See Sloc Glansich.

Sgeirislum [ˈskʰerislum] NF736031 231 I OS*
island of the skerry

1654 Skyrreslum, 1823 Skerislum, 1874 Sgeirislum

A combination of ON *sker*, n, ‘skerry’ and ON *holmr*, m, ‘small island’. This is a common name in Norway.

Sgòr ’ic Cumhais [ˌskʰɔrɪç ˈkũ] NF697090 231 R OR
MacCuish’s cleft

Likely to be named after Sandy MacCuish’s grandfather. G *sgòr*, m, is related to ON *skor*, f, ‘ledge’.

Sgòr a’ Chait [ˌskʰɔrə ˈxahʲ] NF703035 231 R OR
cleft of the cat

Alias: An Sgòr Buidhe

Sgòr a’ Chait is the younger name of this place.

Sgòr a’ Chait [ˌskʰɔrə ˈxahʲ] NL693991 247 R OR
cleft of the cat

Sgòr a’ Mhinisteir [ˌskʰɔrə ˈvɪnʲɪʃtər] NL637979 247 R OR
cleft of the minister

Sgòr Dallaig [ˌskʰɔr ˈd̪alak] NL707991 247 R OR
cleft of the dog-fish

Sgòr Galla Iain [ˌskʰɔr ˈɡalə ˈiːaɪn] NL642979 247 R OR
cleft of Iain’s bitch

A bitch went into this cleft for rabbits but never appeared again.

Sgòr na Còrcaich [ˌskʰɔrnə ˈkɔrkɪç] NF684027 231 R OR
cleft of the hemp

Sgòr nan Calman [ˌskʰɔrnə ˈŋɡalaman] NF678018 231 R OR
cleft of the pigeons

Sgòr nan Gamhn’ Àrd [ˌskʰɔrnə ˈŋɡaun ˈaːft] NL668996 247 R OR
high cleft of the calves

Sgòr nan Gamhn’ Ìseal [ˌskʰɔrnə ˈŋɡaun ˈiːfɔl] NL669994 247 R OR
low cleft of the stirks

Sgùtag a’ Ghreusaiche [ˌskʰuːtak ˈɣriasɪçə] NL655999 247 R OR
the cobbler’s ?

It is difficult to establish the correct semantics for the generic. A relation to Eysteinnsson’s Harris place-name Scotasay from ON *skot*, ‘neuk’, ‘corner’, [skʰʰtasai] (see Eysteinnsson, 1992:16) is unlikely due to the different vowel lengths of the letter /u/. Ronald Black suggests a derivation from Dwelly’s *sgùd*, ‘dirty water’, ‘foul drops’, possibly naming a ‘small well or spring of water - the kind of water supply more suitable for a cat than a human being’. During my fieldwork I gained the impression that *sgùtag* was used for some kind of relief feature.

Sgùtag Iain Òig <i>Young John's ?</i>	[,sku:tak ,i:aĩN 'o:g]	NF678044	231 R	OR
For possible derivation of sgotag see Sgotag a' Ghreusaiche.				
Sgùtagan a' Chait <i>the cat's ?</i>	[,skutagənə 'xɑ'hʲf]	NF652004	231 R	OR
For possible derivation of sgotag see Sgotag a' Ghreusaiche.				
Sgùmban an Fhéidh <i>summit of the deer</i>	[,sk'u:mbanə 'Nje:]	NL677980	247 R	OR
G sgùmban, 'top of hillock or hill' is listed in McDonald, 1958:217. An Sgùmban is also a place-name in Eriskay where it describes a round and prominent summit.				
Sgùmban an Langain <i>summit of the deer's roaring</i>	[,sk'u:mbanə 'laŋgan]	NF714006	231 R	OR
Sgùmban nan Eun <i>summit of the birds</i>	[,sk'u:mbanə 'ni:an]	NF707036	231 R	OR
Sgùmban nan Eun <i>summit of the birds</i>	[,sk'u:mbanə 'ni:an]	NL650981	247 R	OR
Sheader <i>settlement</i> 1901 Sheidiar	[ˈʃedɪr]	NL631920	247 S	OS
From ON setr, n, 'dwelling place', 'farm'. In Norway there is the distinction between setr, 'dwelling place' and sætr, 'shieling'. In Barra these two can not be distinguished by phonological means only. The geographical location, however, is likely to provide vital clues. For full discussion of the two elements see Nicolaisen, 1976:90f.				
Sheader Rocks <i>rocks of S.</i> 1901 Sheidera Rocks Alias: An Sgeir Dhubh, Na Ludagain See Sheader.	[,ʃedɪr 'rɒks]	NL627916	247 I	OS
Sheandale <i>old valley</i> The generic is derived from ON dalr, m, 'valley'.		NF679050	231 R	ML
Sheep Fold	[ˈʃi:p ,fold]	NL644995	247 E	OS
Sheep Fold	[ˈʃi:p ,fold]	NF665006	231 E	OS
Sheep Fold	[ˈʃi:p ,fold]	NF677044	231 E	OS
Sheep Fold	[ˈʃi:p ,fold]	NF697052	231 E	OS
Sheep Pen	[ˈʃi:p ,pen]	NL676974	247 E	OS

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------|-------|-----|
| Sheep Pens | [ˈʃi:p ,pens] | NF674025 | 231 E | OS |
| Sheep Pens | [ˈʃi:p ,pens] | NF679010 | 231 E | OS |
| Sheep Pens | [ˈʃi:p ,pens] | NF697036 | 231 E | OS |
| Sheep Wash | [ˈʃi:p ,wɔʃ] | NL646995 | 247 E | OS |
| Sheep Wash | [ˈʃi:p ,wɔʃ] | NF649009 | 231 E | OS |
| Sheep Wash | [ˈʃi:p ,wɔʃ] | NL651921 | 247 E | OS |
| Sheep Wash | [ˈʃi:p ,wɔʃ] | NL681987 | 247 E | OS |
| Shelter Rock
1865 -
Alias: An Sgeir Bheag | [ˈʃeɪlə ,rɒk] | NL562808 | 260 I | AD |
| Site of chapel | | NL568804 | 260 A | OS* |
| ‘No traces of it remain, and its dedicatory name is unknown. There is also a place of burial here which is enclosed by a stone wall, which is now, however, seldom used.’ OS Object Name Book. | | | | |
| Site of plane crash | | NL638960 | 247 O | OR |
| On the 12th of May 1944 a Catalina Flying boat, based in Oban, hit the slope of Heishival Mhór in Vatersay and crashed. Three passengers were killed, six survived. Some of the debris can still be seen from the road. | | | | |
| Skallary
<i>Skolli’s shieling</i>
1823 Scallary, 1825 Scallarigh
A hybrid of ON personal name, m, Skolli, and G àirigh, f, ‘shieling’. | [ˈskˈaləɹi] | NL695995 | 247 S | OS* |
| Skate Point
1865 Barra Head
Barra and Vatersay fishermen use the Gaelic name, Tom a’ Sgaite, for this location. | [ˈskeɪt ˈpɔɪnt] | NL545803 | 260 R | OS* |
| Skip
1654 The Skyp, 1865 Sgeir a Scape, 1901 Sgeir a Skape
This name designates a small rock in the sea at the entrance to Castle Bay. The name appears on early charts. It is likely to be derived from ON. | [ˈskˈip] | NL684962 | 247 I | OR* |
| Skipisdale
<i>valley of ships</i>
1865 Skipisdle
Alias: Cladach Sgiobasdail
The OS location of this name appears to be wrong at NL556818. The NGR given here is based on Joseph Sinclair’s and D.D. Campbell’s notes. The name is probably derived from ON skip, n, ‘boat’ and ON dalr, m, ‘valley’. | [ˈskˈipɪsdəl] | NL561817 | 260 R | OS* |

Slaughterhouse This building is now used as a storage facility.	[ˈslɔ:tər ˌhaus]	NF709004	231 S	OR
Sleeping Indian Alias: Bodach Fhùaigh	[ˌsliːpiŋ ˈindjən]	NF740025	231 R	OR
Sligeanach Alias: Machaire Bhuirgh Sligeanach is usually a hill term. Here, in a coastal location it designates a small mound which looks like an upturned shell or boat.	[ˈfligənax]	NF652017	231 F	OS
Sloc a' Bhadain <i>gully of the little grove</i> G badan, m, 'little grove'. One informant mentioned 'mare' as a possible alternative meaning.	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈvadəain]	NL651921	247 W	OR
Sloc a' Bhàta 1874 Stick Pit Alias: Sloc a' Mhaide It is very likely that the OS erroneously placed a grave accent on the generic, thus lengthening its vowel quantity. As a consequence, the meaning changed from Sloc a' Bhata, 'gully of the stick', which corresponds to the historical form Stick Pit from 1874, to the new creation Sloc a' Bhàta, 'gully of the boat'. What was meant was 'driftwood', see Sloc a' Mhaide.	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈvaɔ̃ʒ]	NF720009	231 W	OS
Sloc a' Bhòcain <i>gully of the ghost</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈvɔːxkain]	NL571845	260 W	OR
Sloc a' Chìrein <i>serrated gully</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈçirən]	NL654944	247 W	OR
Sloc a' Chìrein <i>serrated gully</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈçirən]	NL648947	247 W	OR
Sloc a' Chìrein <i>serrated gully</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈçirən]	NL620946	247 W	OS
Sloc a' Chlogaid <i>gully of the helmet</i> 1823 Slochdachlogat Alias: Sloc na Sealbhaig	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈxlɔɡatˈ]	NL553799	260 W	ML
Sloc a' Churaich <i>gully of the wicker-boat</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈxuriç]	NF655024	231 W	OS6"
Sloc a' Ghamhna <i>gully of the stirk</i> 1823 Slockaughana	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈɡaun̪ˠ]	NL620946	247 W	ML
Sloc a' Ghreusaiche <i>gully of the shoemaker/cobbler-fish</i> Alias: Sloc Iagan na h-Aibhne	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈɡriasɪçə]	NF696074	231 W	OR

Sloc a' Ghuail <i>gully of the coal</i>	[sloxkə 'ɡuəl]	NL642957	247 W	OR
Sloc a' Mhaide <i>gully of the driftwood</i> 1874 Stick Pit Alias: Sloc a' Bhàta	[sloxkə 'vaɕə]	NF721009	231 W	AD
Sloc a' Mhoraire <i>gully of the laird</i> Moraire, 'lord' or 'laird', was the nickname of Sandy MacCuish's father.	[sloxkə 'vørərə]	NF678052	231 W	OR
Sloc a' Mhurain <i>gully of the bent grass</i>	[sloxkə 'vurain]	NL571834	260 W	OR
Sloc Abhainn nam Ban <i>gully of A.</i> See Abhainn nam Ban.	[sloxk əũ-iɲəm 'bən]	NF683053	231 W	OR
Sloc Allt a' Mhuilinn <i>gully of A.</i> See Allt a' Mhuilinn.	[sloxk əultə 'vul'in]	NF755038	231 W	OR
Sloc an Amadain <i>gully of the fool</i> "During the clearances when they were chasing people out of that area there was a fellow that went into hiding between these rocks. And he was a simpleton so to speak, but one wonders whether he was a simpleton really, because he was the only one who got away." Neil MacNeil	[sloxkə 'Namədan]	NF724023	231 W	OR
Sloc an Aon Eich <i>gully of the one horse</i> 1823 Slockanaoneich Only one horse could go down at a time to transport seaweed.		NF699096	231 W	ML
Sloc an Daimh <i>gully of the bullock</i>	[sloxkə 'd̪æv]	NF666048	231 W	OR
Sloc an Dóbhraín <i>gully of the otter</i> Alias: Sloc an Dòmh-Choin	[sloxkə 'd̪o:Ran]	NF708018	231 W	OR
Sloc an Dòmh-Choin <i>gully of the otter</i> Alias: Sloc an Dóbhraín G domh-chù in gen. case domh-choin is alternative word for 'otter'.	[sloxkə 'd̪õ: 'xoin]	NF708018	231 W	OR
Sloc an Duilisg <i>gully of the dulse</i> Dulse is a tender seaweed.	[sloxkən 'd̪ulɪʃk]	NF753037	231 W	OR

Sloc an Eich <i>gully of the horse</i> A horse fell into the gully and was killed.	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNeç]	NF694093	231 W	OR
Sloc an Éisg <i>fish gully</i> Alias: Sloc Grisivick, An Sloc Mór	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNeːʃk]	NL622939	247 W	OR
Sloc an Fhithich <i>gully of the raven</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNiːʰiç]	NF630002	231 W	OR
Sloc an Fhithich <i>gully of the raven</i> Alias: Sloc an Tairbh	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNiːʰiç]	NF725007	231 W	OR
Sloc an Iarainn <i>gully of the iron</i> Alias: Sloc Feannaig	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNiəriN]	NL652956	247 W	OR
Sloc an Ime <i>gully of the butter</i> 1865 Heifer's Bed	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNiːm]	NL563795	260 W	OS*
Sloc an Isein <i>gully of the fledgling</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈNiʃən]	NL685933	247 W	OR
Sloc an Rathaid <i>gully of the road</i> There is some confusion over the correct location of this place. G rathad, m, is derived from MEng. roade, 'road'.	[ˌslɔːxkən ˈRɑ-ət]	NL559844	260 W	OR
Sloc an Rodain <i>gully of the rat</i> This name may be the same as the one located at NL619958 given by Joseph Sinclair and D. D. Campbell. G rodan or radan, m, a loan from MEng. raton, 'rat'.	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈRɔːdan]	NL614961	247 W	OR
Sloc an Rodain <i>gully of the rat</i> See Sloc an Rodain.	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈRɔːdan]	NL619958	247 W	OR
Sloc an Rubha <i>gully of the promontory</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈRuʃ]	NL655975	247 W	OR
Sloc an Sgadain <i>gully of the herring</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈskˈadan]	NL646903	247 W	OR
Sloc an Sgadain <i>gully of the herring</i>	[ˌslɔːxkə ˈskˈadan]	NL632921	247 W	OR

Sloc an Sgairbh <i>gully of the cormorant</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈskørəv]	NF625000	231 W	OR
Sloc an Sgiùrdain <i>gully of the squirt of water</i> The name is likely to derive from G sgiùrdan, ‘syringe’, ‘water-gun’, ‘purgative’, referring to a squirt of water to be found here.	[ˌslɔxkən ˈskjuːstjən]	NF665048	231 W	OR
Sloc an t-Sabhail <i>gully of the barn</i> Alias: Sloc na h-Àirde, Sloc Rubh’ Àird nan Capall	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪aul]	NL571851	260 W	OR
Sloc an t-Saoir <i>the carpenter’s gully</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈtʰɑːr]	NL646925	247 W	OR
Sloc an t-Sealastair <i>gully of the iris</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪ɛləsɔdər]	NL703988	247 W	OR
Sloc an Tairbh <i>gully of the bull</i> Alias: An Sloc Dubh	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪ørəv]	NF658049	231 W	OR
Sloc an Tairbh <i>gully of the bull</i> Alias: Sloc an Fhithich 1874 Bull Pit	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪ørəv]	NF725007	231 W	OS*
Sloc an Teine <i>fire gully</i>	[ˌslɔxkən ˈtʰinɔ]	NL643937	247 W	OR
Sloc an Todhair <i>seaweed gully</i> Todhar is a kind of seaweed specifically used for fertilizer. Malcolm MacNeil locates this place-name at NL630916.	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪ōər]	NL632922	247 W	OR
Sloc an Todhair <i>seaweed gully</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪ōər]	NL688976	247 W	OR
Sloc an Tuill <i>gully of the hole</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈd̪uɪlʲ]	NL561794	260 W	OR
Sloc an Uisge <i>freshwater gully</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈnuʃkɔ]	NL571844	260 W	OR
Sloc an Uisge <i>freshwater gully</i> 1823 Slockanuish Alias: Sloc Glansich	[ˌslɔxkə ˈnuʃkɔ]	NL592877	260 W	ML
Sloc an Uisge <i>freshwater gully</i>	[ˌslɔxkə ˈnuʃkɔ]	NL663984	247 W	OS6"

- Sloc Beag nan Calman** [ˌslɔxk ˌbɛknə ˈŋɡalaman] NL614960 247 W OR
little gully of pigeons
 Alias: Sloc nan Calman
- Sloc Bheàrlais** [ˌslɔxk ˈvaːrlɪʃ] NL6179710 247 W ML
 1823 Slockvearlish
 The generic is derived from G sloc, m, ‘gully’. The meaning of the remaining part of the name is uncertain.
- Sloc Ceit** [ˌslɔxk ˈkʲeːhʲtʲ] NL615976 247 W OR
Kate’s gully
 The correct location is uncertain. D. D. Campbell places the same name at NL617980.
- Sloc Ceann a’ Ghàrraidh** [ˌslɔxk ˌkjaunə ɡaɾi] NL565796 260 W OS*
gully of the head of the dyke
- Sloc Chailein** [ˌslɔxk ˈxalain] NL628982 247 W OR
gully of Colin
 Alias: An Sloc Gorm, Sloc Néill Chailein
- Sloc Chalman** [ˌslɔxk ˈhaləmən] NL620950 247 W OR
gully of pigeons
 Alias: An Sloc Gorm
- Sloc Chiasigeo** [ˌslɔxk ˈhiasəɡjɔ] NL550839 260 W OS
gully of the small bay
 A combination of G sloc, m, ‘gully’, ON kjoss, ‘small bay’, and ON gjá, f, ‘gully’.
- Sloc Chremisgeo** [ˌslɔxk ˈrɛmɪʃɡjɔ] NL568819 260 W OS*
gully of ?
 1823 Slockchremiskeo, 1865 Slochk chremis Geo, 1901 Slochd chremis Geo
 Donald MacNeil relocates this place-name to where Geodhachan is marked on the OS map. The OS location for Sloc Chremisgeo is wrong. The first element is G sloc, m, ‘gully’. The second element remains obscure. The third element is derived from ON gjá, f, ‘gully’.
- Sloc Cuigeo** [ˌslɔx ˈkuɪɡjɔ] NL552807 260 W OS*
gully of the enclosure
 1823 Slockeh-inego
 G sloc, m, ‘gully’ combined with ON kví, f, ‘enclosure’ and of ON gjá, f, ‘gully’. The 1823 form is likely to be based on a reading mistake. It may originate from the form Slockchuiego which rather nicely corresponds to the form of the topname.
- Sloc Dallaig** [ˌslɔxk ˈðalak] NL706992 247 W OR
gully of the dog-fish
- Sloc Dhòmhnaill Tuathanach** [ˌslɔxk ˌɣɔ̃-əLˈtʲuanax] NF723024 231 W OR
gully of Donald the Farmer
 A Uistman fell into this gully which consequently was named after him. It is not known whether he survived his accident.

Sloc Dhòmhnaill 'ic Dhòmhnaill <i>gully of Donald MacDonald</i>	[,sloxk ,ɾɔ̃-əl,içk 'ɾɔ̃-əl]	NL660955	247 W	OR
Sloc Dubh an Dùine <i>black gully of the fortification</i> The OS spelling is incorrect. It should be Sloc Dubh an Dùin to mark the proximity of Dùn Mingulay.	[,sloxk 'd̪u ^h ən 'd̪u:n]	NL547820	260 W	OS
Sloc Dubh Orosaigh <i>black gully of O.</i> See Orosay.	[,sloxk ,d̪u ^h 'ɔɾɔ-ɔs̪ei]	NF716060	231 W	OR
Sloc Feannaig <i>gully of the crow</i> Alias: Sloc an Iarainn	[,sloxk 'fænak]	NL652956	247 W	OR
Sloc Feannaig a-muigh <i>outer gully of the crow</i>	[,sloxk ,fænakə 'muj]	NL697982	247 W	OR
Sloc Feannaig a-staigh <i>inner gully of the crow</i>	[,sloxk ,fænakə 'støj]	NL696983	247 W	OR
Sloc Fhionnaghal <i>Flora's gully</i>	[,sloxk 'hi ⁿ əgal]	NL678971	247 W	OR
Sloc Freumh <i>gully of tree roots</i>	[,sloxk 'fre:v]	NF651046	231 W	OR
Sloc Ghadhalum <i>gully of ?</i> The specific is probably of ON origin. See Cuidhe Ghadhalum and Sgeir Ghadhalum.	[,sloxk 'g̪ɑ-ɑlum]	NL650941	247 W	OR
Sloc Ghunamul <i>gully of G.</i> See Gunamul.	[,sloxk 'ɾu ⁿ əmul]	NL548824	260 W	OR
Sloc Gille Ruaidh <i>gully of 'The Red Boy'</i> 'The Red Boy' is the name of a sea rock just north of Mingulay.	[,sloxk ,g̪ilə 'ruəj]	NF660049	231 W	OR
Sloc Glamarigeo <i>gully of ?</i> 1823 Slockghlamerika This gully is situated at the particularly steep and indented southern coastline of Pabbay. For possible derivations see Sloc Lamarigeo.	[,sloxk 'lamarigj̥ɔ̃]	NL599869	260 W	OS*
Sloc Glansich Alias: Sloc an Uisge The OS Object Name Book mentions that a man called Glensig fell over the cliff and drowned at this point. Glensig may be a nickname meaning 'the shiny one'. This name corresponds to the name Sgeirean Sloc Ghleansaich which was collected from an oral source.	[,sloxk 'g̪lansig]	NL592877	260 W	OS

Sloc Gob na Beinne <i>gully of G.</i> See Gob na Beinne.	[sloxk ˈɡopnə ˈbɛnəɾ]	NL614969	247 W	OR
Sloc Gorm Leithinis <i>blue gully of L.</i> Alias: An Sloc Gorm See Leanish.	[sloxk ˈɡɔrəm ˈlæːnɪʃ]	NL701992	247 W	OR
Sloc Granda <i>grim gully</i>	[sloxk ˈɡranda]	NL597822	260 W	OS
Sloc Greiligeo <i>? + gully</i> Alias: Sloc Hiasigeo G sloc, m, ‘gully’, combined with a word of unknown meaning and ON gjá, f, ‘gully’.	[sloxk ˈɡreilɪɡjɔ]	NL560793	260 W	OS
Sloc Grisivick <i>gully of pigs</i> 1823 Slockghrieskeo, 1901 Slochghriesgeo Alias: An Sloc Mór, Sloc an Éisg G sloc, m, ‘gully’, combined with ON gríss, m, ‘young pig’, and ON vík, f, ‘bay’.	[sloxk ˈɡrɪfəvɪk]	NL622939	247 W	OS*
Sloc Gunasay The second element may be derived from the ON personal name Gunnarr and ON øy, f, ‘island’. According to Rygh (1898:88) ON øy may also designate a ‘level piece of ground with vegetation’ which it does in this case.	[sloxk ˈɡunəsəi]	NL567831	260 W	OR
Sloc Heisegeo 1823 Slochdheishgeo The long vowel /e:/ in the specific may be broken into a diphthong which suggests a possible link with the specific of the following name, Sloc Hiasigeo. It is possible that Heisegeo, too, is based on ON kjoss, ‘little bay’ and ON gjá, ‘gully’. See Bàgh Héisegeo.	[sloxk ˈheɪˌjægjɔ]	NL550819	260 W	OS*
Sloc Hiasigeo <i>gully of the little bay</i> Alias: Sloc Greiligeo A combination of G sloc, ‘gully’ and the ON elements kjoss, ‘little bay’ and gjá, ‘gully’.	[sloxk ˈhɪasɪɡjɔ]	NL560794	260 W	OR
Sloc Hòraid Beag See Bàgh Hòraid.	[sloxk ˈhoːrat ˈbɛk]	NL696974	247 W	OR
Sloc Hòraid Mór See Bàgh Hòraid.	[sloxk ˈhoːrat ˈmoːr]	NL695973	247 W	OR
Sloc Iagan na h-Aibhne <i>gully of Iagan of the River</i> Alias: Sloc a’ Ghreusaiche	[sloxk ˈɪagənə ˈhainjɔ]	NF696074	231 W	OR
Sloc Lamarigeo	[sloxk ˈlamarɪɡjɔ]	NL574836	260 W	ML

gully of ?

1823 Slockghlamerikeo

The specific of this tautological name may be interpreted in two different ways. The second element may either be a combination of ON *hlað*, 'layer', ON *hamarr*, 'steep hillside', and ON *gjá*, 'gully', resulting in a possible translation 'gully of the layered steep hillside' and in its combination of ON *hlað* and *hamarr* be related to G *laimhrig*, 'landing-place'. Located at the steep and indented western coast of Mingulay, this gully is embedded in high cliffs but is almost certainly unsuitable for use as a landing-place. Alternatively the specific may derive from ON *hrafn*, m, 'raven' as in Eysteinsson's *Ramerigeo* (see Eysteinsson, 1992:35). He traces ON *hrafn* back to *hramn* according to the morphological rule after which *n* becomes *r* after *m*. Eysteinsson mentions places in the Western and Northern Isles which are called 'raven gully' such as *Ramnaigea* (see MacAulay, 1972:333), *Ramnagio* (see Jakob Jakobsen, 'The Dialect and Place-Names of Shetland', *Two Popular Lectures*, 1897, p. 98.) and *Hrafnagjá* which appears at least twice in Iceland (see Eysteinsson, 1992:36). The change from the initial sound /r/ to /l/ is common in certain parts of the Western Isles and would support the second derivation. See *Sloc Glamarigeo*.

Sloc Mäs-bachd <i>gully of the bottom-shaped bog</i>	[sloxk 'ma:svaxk]	NF648008	231 W	OS6"
Sloc Mhàrtuin <i>Martin's gully</i>	[sloxk 'va:řtjən]	NL624949	247 W	OS
Sloc Mhicheil <i>Michael's gully</i>	[sloxk 'vĩ:çəl]	NL646939	247 W	OR
Sloc Mór nan Calman <i>big gully of pigeons</i> Alias: Sloc nan Calman	[sloxk ,mo:rnə 'ŋgɔlaman]	NL613962	247 W	OR
Sloc na Bà <i>gully of the cow</i> Ronald MacDonald (see bibliography, tape section) and Malcolm MacNeil locate this name at NL698977.	[sloxknə 'bɑ:]	NL695974	247 W	OR
Sloc na Béiste <i>gully of the beast</i> G <i>biast</i> , gen. case <i>béiste</i> , f, a loan from Lat. <i>bestia</i> , 'monster'.	[sloxknə 'bɛ:řtjɔ]	NL546802	260 W	OS
Sloc na Cailliche <i>gully of the old woman</i>	[sloxknə 'kaliçə]	NF656024	231 W	OR
Sloc na Càrnaich <i>gully of the stony ground</i>	[sloxknə 'kɑrɳiç]	NL691976	247 W	OR
Sloc na Carraige <i>gully of the fishing rock</i>	[sloxknə 'k'ɑrikə]	NF695096	231 W	OR
Sloc na Cloiche <i>gully of the stone</i>	[sloxknə 'k'loiçə]	NF735015	231 W	OR

Sloc na Crèadhha <i>gully of the clay</i>	[sloxknə 'k'riu]	NF645020	231 W	OR
Sloc na Croise <i>gully of the cross</i>	[sloxknə 'k'rɔʃɔ]	NF697096	231 W	OR
Sloc na Gobhair <i>gully of the goat</i>	[sloxknə 'gɔ-ər]	NF765036	231 W	OR
Sloc na Goibhre <i>gully of the goat</i>	[sloxknə 'gɔirə]	NF745023	231 W	OR
As opposed to Sloc na Gobhair, Sloc na Goibhre is the historically correct form.				
Sloc na h-Àirde <i>gully of the height</i>	[sloxknə 'hɑ:ɾdʲə]	NL571851	260 W	OR
Alias: Sloc Rubh' Àird nan Capall, Sloc an t-Sabhail				
Sloc na h-Ighne <i>gully of the girl</i>	[sloxknə 'hĩ:njɔ]	NF665049	231 W	OR
Sloc na h-Ighne <i>gully of the girl</i>	[sloxknə 'hĩ:njɔ]	NF777035	231 W	OR
This is a primary name is extracted from Bogha Sloc na h-Ighinn.				
Sloc na h-Iolaire <i>gully of the eagle</i>	[sloxknə 'hĩlir'ɔ]	NL692936	247 W	ML
1823 Slocknahulona (?), 1901 Slochnahulona Sharbau's 1901 historic form is merely a copy of MacLean's uncertain 1823 name and therefore cannot be regarded as a reliable source. Sloc na h-Iolaire is located at the bottom of Creag na h-Iolaire in Muldoanich.				
Sloc na Làire <i>gully of the mare</i>	[sloxknə 'Lā:irə]	NF683053	231 W	OR
Sloc na Làraich <i>gully of the site of a house</i>	[sloxknə 'Lā:riç]	NL625978	247 W	OR
Sloc na Mòna <i>gully of the peat</i>	[sloxknə 'mɔ:Nɔ]	NL634936	247 W	OR
Sloc na Mòna <i>gully of the peat</i>	[sloxknə 'mɔ:Nɔ]	NL634938	247 W	OR
Sloc na Muice <i>gully of the pig</i>	[sloxknə 'muicɕ]	NL556842	260 W	OS*
1823 Slocknamucka, 1901 Sloch na Muicha Alias: Sloc Slétta There is some confusion as to the correct name of this chasm. Apparently the name given in the alias field is not alternative, but a competing name. Malcolm MacNeil and Joseph Sinclair call this place Sloc Slétta.				

Sloc na Sealbhaig <i>gully of the common sorrel</i> Alias: Sloc an Rathaid There is some confusion as to the correct location of this place-name. D. D. Campbell locates it at NL555843.	[sloxknə 'ʃɛlɐvək]	NL557844	260 W	OR
Sloc na Sealbhaig <i>gully of the common sorrel</i> Alias: Sloc a' Chlogaid	[sloxknə 'ʃɛlɐvək]	NL553799	260 W	OS
Sloc na Teileagraf <i>gully of the telegraph cable</i> G teileagraf is a loan from Eng. telegraph. The telegraph connection was established in 1884.	[sloxknə 'telegraf]	NL686974	247 W	OR
Sloc nam Frangach <i>gully of the Frenchmen</i> 1823 Slocknafrangach	[sloxknə 'frɒŋgax]	NF651050	231 W	ML
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i> Alias: Sloc Mór nan Calman	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL613962	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i> Alias: Sloc Beag nan Calman	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL614960	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i>	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL623983	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i>	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL627936	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i>	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL644937	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i> This primary name is related to Sgeir Sloc nan Calman.	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL699977	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Calman <i>gully of pigeons</i> 1823 Slocknacalaman, 1901 Slochnacalaman	[sloxknə 'ŋɡalaman]	NL688933	247 W	ML
Sloc nan Cléibh <i>gully of creels</i>	[sloxknə 'ŋɡle:v]	NF664048	231 W	OR
Sloc nan Con <i>gully of dogs</i>	[sloxknə 'ŋɡɔ:n]	NL617969	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Con	[sloxknə 'ŋɡɔ:n]	NF633005	231 W	OR

gully of dogs

Sloc nan Con <i>gully of dogs</i>	[,sloxknə 'ŋgɔn]	NF648009	231 W	OR
Sloc nan Dreasag <i>gully of little brambles</i> Alias: Sloc Ratcliff	[,sloxknən 'drisak]	NF701095	231 W	OR
Sloc nan Each <i>gully of the horses</i>	[,sloxknə 'Næx]	NL706997	247 W	OS
Sloc nan Gallan <i>gully of the branches</i>	[,sloxknə 'ŋgalan]	NF661049	231 W	OR
Sloc nan Gamhna <i>gully of the stirks</i>	[,sloxknə 'ŋgaunɔ]	NL617975	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Iasgairean <i>gully of the fishermen</i> 1901 Slockniaskorin The topname has been reconstructed from the 1901 form and is not certain.		NL693937	247 W	SH
Sloc nan Ròn <i>gully of the seals</i> 1823 Slocknaroan	[,sloxknə 'Rɔ:n]	NF769052	231 W	ML
Sloc nan Sgarbh <i>gully of the cormorants</i>	[,sloxknən 'ska-rav]	NL621944	247 W	OR
Sloc nan Sùl <i>gully of the eyes</i>	[,sloxknən 'su:l]	NF626002	231 W	OR
Sloc Néill Chailein <i>gully of Neil (son of) Colin</i> Alias: An Sloc Gorm, Sloc Chailein Sloc Néill Chailein is Nask usage, An Sloc Gorm is Caolis usage.	[,sloxk ,Nɛ:l'xalan]	NL628982	247 W	OR
Sloc NicillEathain <i>gully of MacLean's daughter</i>	[,sloxk ,niçki'le:hin]	NF656025	231 W	OS6"
Sloc Phabaigh <i>gully of P.</i> See Pabbay.	[,sloxk 'fap'ëi]	NL608872	260 W	OR
Sloc Pheadair <i>Peter's gully</i>	[,sloxk 'fedir]	NL645938	247 W	OR
Sloc Pheadair <i>Peter's gully</i>	[,sloxk 'fedir]	NL602898	260 W	OR

- Sloc Ràsaidh** [ˌsloxk ˈRaːsaʲ] NF637005 231 W OR
 Alias: An Geòdha Beag
 The generic is G and means gully. The spelling of the specific is extremely doubtful. Its meaning is obscure.
- Sloc Ratcliff** [ˌsloxk ˈRatklif] NF701095 231 W OR
Ratcliff's gully
 Alias: Sloc nan Dreasag
 Mrs. Ratcliff used to own the house beside the gully.
- Sloc Rubh' Àird nan Capall** [ˌsloxk ˈRu ˌaːRdnə ˈŋgaʰpəl] NL571851 260 W OR
gully of R.
 Alias: Sloc na h-Àirde, Sloc an t-Sabhail
 See Rubh' Àird nan Capall.
- Sloc Rubha Léitheadh** [ˌsloxk ˈRuə ˈLeʰəʔ] NL550815 260 W OR
gully of R.
 See Rubha Liath.
- Sloc Slétta** [ˌsloxk ˈsleːtʃə] NL559844 260 W OR
gully of the plain
 Alias: Sloc an Rathaid
 There is some confusion as to the correct location of this place-name. The name is a combination of G sloc, m, 'gully' and ON slétta, f, 'plain'.
- Sloc Slétta** [ˌsloxk ˈsleːtʃə] NL556843 260 W OR
gully of the plain
 Alias: Sloc na Muice
 See Sloc Slétta.
- Sloc Thréisibhig** [ˌsloxk ˈReːʃivik] NL570795 260 W OR
gully of T.
 Alias: Tresivick
 See Tresivick.
- Sloc Veacligeo** [ˌsloxk ˌveˈakligjə] NL557795 260 W OS*
 1823 Slochvaelikeo
 G sloc, m, and ON gjá, f, both mean 'gully'. The remaining part of the name cannot be explained.
- Slocan Guarsay** [ˌsloxkan ˈɡuarsəi] NL552845 260 W OR
gullies of G.
 Alias: Na Sluic
 See Guarsay.
- Slugaide** [ˈslugaɟə] NF658001 231 R OR
gorge
- Snagaras** [ˈsnaːgaras] NF753028 231 I OS*
sound of the headland

1823 Snagarass, 1874 Snagara

A combination of ON snage, m, 'headland', 'point' and ON rás, f, 'run of water'. As S. is land-based the name may have been given to a water feature in its vicinity.

Snuasimul [snu'asəmul] NL669953 247 I OS*
rock of the turning

1823 -

Alternatively Snuasmul (McDonald, 1958:288). A combination of ON snua, n, 'turning', and ON múli, m, 'rock'.

Solaicridh ['solakri] NF695086 231 R ML
 1823 Solicui

Possible derivations are from ON sól, f, 'sun' and ON krikr, m, 'neuk', 'corner', meaning the 'sunny corner'. If based on a G origin the first part may be derived from G solaidh, m, 'broken food', 'whelk', 'bait' which was thrown in the sea to attract fish. The second part remains obscure. Allan McDonald (1903:433) lists the name Oracri whose generic may be related to the above name.

Solon Beag [sɔːɔlum 'bøk] NL577849 260 I OS*
big sheep island

1823 Solumveg, 1865 Solonbeg

Locals pronounce the generic with a labial /m/ instead of the nasal /n/. ON sauða, m, 'sheep', ON holmr, m, 'island'.

Solon Mór [sɔːɔlum 'mo:r] NL574850 260 I OS*
small sheep island

1823 Solumvore

See Solon Beag.

Sonimull NL593882 260 R ML
 1823 Sonimull

Heggstad (1930:637) lists Sóni as personal name for males. The generic is derived from ON múli, m, 'headland'.

Sòrn Coir' Fhinn [sɔːrɒn 'k'ɔr 'fɪ:n] NF678052 231 R OR
hearth of Finn's kettle

G sòrn also means 'kiln for drying corn'.

Sotan ['sɔ^htan] NL555800 260 R OS
 Sotan designates a slope in the interior of Barra. The meaning is obscure.

Sound of Barra [saundəv 'bʌrɑ] NF752099 231 W OS
sound of B.

Alias: Caolas Uibhisteach

Eng. sound is related to ON sund, n.

Sound of Berneray [saundəv 'bæɾɒnərai] NL558811 260 W OS*
sound of B.

1823 -

See Berneray.

Sound of Fiaray <i>sound of F.</i> 1865 - Margaret Forbes gives the G version of this name, Caolas Fiarach. See Fiaray.	[,saundəv 'fiarēi]	NF697099	231 W	OS*
Sound of Fuday <i>sound of F.</i> 1865 Fuday Sound See Fuday.	[,saundəv 'fu:ɕēi]	NF719080	231 W	OS*
Sound of Hellisay <i>sound of H.</i> 1865 Sound of Hellisay See Hellisay.	[,saundəv 'hælasēi]	NF750034	231 W	OS*
Sound of Mingulay <i>sound of M.</i> 1823 -, 1865 - See Mingulay.	[,saundəv 'mɪŋgələi]	NL583859	260 W	OS*
Sound of Orosay <i>sound of O.</i> 1874 Sound of Oronsay See Orosay.	[,saundəv 'ɔrɔ-ɔsēi]	NF709063	231 W	OS*
Sound of Pabbay <i>sound of P.</i> 1823 -, 1848 - See Pabbay.	[,saundəv 'pap'ēi]	NL613888	260 W	OS*
Sound of Sandray <i>sound of S.</i> 1865 Saundray Sound See Sandray.	[,saundəv 'saundrēi]	NL633930	247 W	OS*
Sound of Vatersay <i>sound of V.</i> 1848 Sound of Watersay, 1823 Caolisbeg, 1865 Vatersay Sound See Vatersay.	[,saundəv 'va ^h təʃēi]	NL634977	247 W	OS*
Speedish The meaning is obscure.	['spi:diʃ]	NF664015	231 R	OR
Spòg an Deamhain <i>paw of the devil</i> It is said that the devil left his footprint on this rock.	[,spɔkə 'ɕɔ:vən]	NF679051	231 R	OR
Sròn a' Chruimpain <i>C.'s nose</i> 1823 Strachumpain Alias: An t-Sròn	[,strɔ:n 'xrɔimpən]	NF656007	231 R	OS6"

The specific may be a personal name.

Sròn a' Mhill <i>promontory of the hill</i>	[,strɔ:nə 'vɪ:l]	NL653946	247 R	OR
Sròn Ailein <i>Allan's promontory</i>	[,strɔ:'Nælaɪn]	NF706042	231 R	OR
Sròn an Dùin <i>promontory of the fort</i> 1865 Stron Dun	[,strɔ:nə 'Nɒ̃u:n]	NL543819	260 R	OS*
Sròn an Iasgair <i>promontory of the fisherman</i>	[,strɔ:nə 'Niasgər]	NL609926	247 R	OR
Sròn an Rubha <i>promontory of the point</i>	[,strɔ:nən 'Ruʃ]	NL618868	260 R	OR
Sròn an t-Sithein <i>promontory of A.</i> See An Sithean.	[,strɔ:nən 'fɪ:ən]	NF650002	231 R	OR
Sròn an t-Suidhe Dhualaich <i>promontory of seaweed-covered seat</i> Alias: Sròn Guarsaigh Suidhe na Clòimhe, 'seat of the wool', is located in the vicinity.	[,strɔ:nən ,t'uiə 'ɡu:əliʃ]	NL549844	260 R	OR
Sròn Bheag an t-Srutha <i>little promontory of the current</i>	[,strɔ:n ,vəkən 't'ru:]	NL589871	260 R	OR
Sròn Bheanais <i>nose of the straight headland</i> See Bannish.	[,strɔ:n 'væniʃ]	NL686932	247 R	OR
Sròn Chiasigeo <i>promontory of C.</i> See Sloc Hiasigeo.	[,strɔ:n 'çiasigjɔ]	NL552840	260 R	OR
Sròn Guarsaigh <i>promontory of G.</i> Alias: Sròn an t-Suidhe Dhualaich See Guarsay.	[,strɔ:n 'ɡuarsəi]	NL549844	260 R	OR
Sròn Hisgeir <i>promontory of H.</i> The last element of the name is derived from ON sker, n, 'skerry'. See Heisker.	[,strɔ:n 'hiʃker]	NL572834	260 R	OR
Sròn Litheinis <i>promontory of L.</i> Alias: Leehinish See Leehinish.	[,strɔ:n 'li-iɪniʃ]	NL651902	247 R	OR

Sròn Lithinis <i>promontory of L.</i> The first vowel in Lithinis is pronounced with a hiatus /ii/. See Leehinish.	[,strɔ:n 'li-iɪnɪʃ]	NL602884	260 R	OR
Sròn na Doirlinn <i>promontory of the headland</i>	[,strɔ:nə 'dɔ̃RL'ɪn]	NF632005	231 R	OR
Sròn na h-Àirde <i>promontory of the height</i>	[,strɔ:nə 'hɑ:ɾdʲə]	NL614979	247 R	OR
Sròn Queen Victoria <i>nose of Queen Victoria</i> Alias: Queen Victoria Rock	[,strɔ:n ,kwɪn vɪk'tɔɪə]	NF694033	231 R	OR
Sruth a' Bhàigh Bhig <i>the stream/current of the small bay</i> Alias: An Sruth Locals refer to this place in its shortened version as An Sruth.	[,struʰə ,vāiʲ 'vɪkʰ]	NL656978	247 W	OR
Sruth a' Ghearraidh <i>stream / current of the enclosure</i> A combination of G sruth, 'stream', and G gearraidh, a loan from ON gerði, n, 'enclosure'. The enclosure related to is <i>Gara Cruaidh</i> in Allasdale.	[,struʰə 'jaɾi]	NF657026	231 W	OR
Sruth Bealach a' Phuinnnd <i>stream of B.</i> G punnd, m, 'fold', is a loan from Eng. pound. See Bealach a' Phuinnnd.	[,struʰ ,b̥əɫaxə 'fuɪnɲ]	NF652001	231 W	OR
Sruth Glaic a' Bhealaich <i>stream of the hollow of the pass</i>	[,struʰ ,ɡ̊ɫaiçkə 'væɫiç]	NF667013	231 W	OR
Sruthan a' Ghille Ruaidh <i>stream of the red boy</i> The specific is listed under its Eng. translation The Red Boy.	[,struʰanə ,ɡ̊ilə 'Ruəj]	NF670012	231 W	OR
Sruthan an t-Sàile Mhóire <i>current of the open sea</i> This current leads from Bàgh Beag into the open sea.	[,struʰanə,talə 'võ:rɔ̃]	NL655980	247 W	OR
Sruthan Bhrodie <i>stream of Brodie</i>	[,struʰan 'vro:di]	NF673013	231 W	OR
Sruthan Màiri Ruairidh <i>stream of Mary of Roderick</i>	[,struʰan ,mɑ:ri 'Ruəri]	NL648976	247 W	OR
Sruthan Nesbitt <i>Nesbitt's stream</i>	[,struʰan 'Ne:sput]	NF662010	231 W	OR
Sruthan Pheadair <i>Peter's stream</i>	[,struʰan 'fedir]	NL656986	247 W	OR

Alias: Abhainn Luireag Phaitir

Sruthan Ruadh [ˌstruːhən ˈruəɟ] NF648995 247 W OS6"
red stream

Sruthan Ruadh runs through Kinloch and feeds into Loch Tangusdale.

St. Clair's Castle NL647996 247 A SH
OS: Dùn MhicLeòid

This name is a historic form of Dùn MhicLeòid. For more information see Dùn MhicLeòid.

St. Columba's Chapel [ˌseint ˌkɒləmbas ˈtʃapəl] NL566834 260 A OS*
Even in 1877 when the OS undertook their survey, the site of St. Columba's chapel could no longer be clearly identified.

Stalla an Eich Bhàin [ˌstala ˈneɟ ˈvāːN] NF661038 231 W OR
sea-rock of the white horse
G stalla, m, a loan from ON stallr, m, 'shelf on which another thing is placed'.

Standing Stones [ˈstandɪŋ ˈstoːns] NF652014 231 A OS
H. Sharbau's estate plan marks this site as 'Warrior's Grave'.

Standing Stones [ˈstandɪŋ ˈstoːns] NL688991 247 A OS

Stéisean Anderson [ˌsteːfən ˈandərsən] NL659979 247 S OR
Anderson's curing station

Stéisean Bremner [ˌsteːfən ˈbremnər] NL660979 247 S OR
Bremner's curing station

Stéisean Cormick [ˌsteːfən ˈkɔrmɪk] NL658978 247 S OR
Cormick's curing station

Stéisean Dhòmhnail Bhig [ˌsteːfən ˌɔ̃-əlˈvɪk] NF714032 231 S OR
Little Donald's curing station

Stéisean Dunbar [ˌsteːfən ˈdʌnbɑːr] NL662982 247 S OR
Dunbar's curing station

Stéisean Gunny [ˌsteːfən ˈɡʊni] NF715032 231 S OR
Gunny's curing station

Stéisean Jenkins [ˌsteːfən ˈdʒɛnkɪns] NL664983 247 S OR
Jenkins's curing station

Stéisean MacIvor [ˌsteːfən maˈki:vər] NL663982 247 S OR
MacIvor's curing station

Stéisean Mitchell [ˌsteːfən ˈmɪtʃəl] NL661981 247 S OR
Mitchell's curing station

Stéisean Pierre [ˌsteːfən ˈpiər] NL661982 247 S OR

little mast

Derived from ON *stǫng*, f, 'mast', this element is popular in Norway for islands and peninsulas either as generic or as specific (see Rygh, 1898:80).

Stoung Mór [ˌstɔŋ ˈmoːr] NF650013 231 R OS

big mast

The OS location of this place-name is wrong. See Stoung Beag.

Struth Cùil na Muic [ˌstruːh ˌkʊlnəˈmuɪçk] NF651004 231 R OS6"

stream of pig's back

Stupid Street [ˈstjuːpɪd ˌstrɪt] NF711073 231 O OR

Locally the name is sometimes abbreviated to 'Stupid'. Three or four temporary houses, thatched cottages, were built in a row. They looked so odd that their occupants nicknamed the place Stupid Street.

Suidhe na Clòimhe [ˌsuiəɲə ˈkʰlɔːhʊ] NL548826 260 R OR

seat of the wool

See Sròn an t-Suidhe Dhualaich.

Suidheachan [ˌsuiəxən] NF688055 231 R OS

seats

Sumula [ˈsumʊlɔ] NL607873 260 R OS*

pebbly beach

1823 Sumulum

See Humula.

Sunais Bheag [ˌsunɪf ˈvæk] NL567828 260 R OR

small southern promontory

A combination of ON *sunn*, adj., 'south' and ON *nes*, n, 'headland'.

Sunais Mhór [ˌsunɪf ˈvoːr] NL567829 260 R OR

big southern promontory

See Sunais Bheag.

Symbol Stone [ˈsɪmbəl ˌstoːn] NL607876 260 A OS

Tabernish NL653920 247 R ML

headland of the peninsula

1823-

G *tairbeart*, f, 'isthmus', 'peninsula' and ON *nes*, n, 'headland'. Cox lists three names including the OIr. element *tairbeart* (see Cox, 1987:169).

Taigh a' Bhell [ˌtʰɔjə ˈvæɫ] NL667982 247 S OR

house of the bell

The generic is taken from Eng. *bell*.

Taigh a' Bhòcain [ˌtʰɔjə ˈvɔːxkən] NL705997 247 S OR

house of the ghost

This house is said to have been built on the grave of two sailors and therefore is haunted. Its roof collapsed in the late 1990s.

Taigh a' Bhodaich <i>house of the old man</i>	[t'øjə 'vɔdɪç]	NF713016	231 S	OR
Taigh a' Mhàil <i>house of the rent</i> Alias: Tobht' a' Mhàil, Taigh an Dà Mhàil	[t'øjə 'vã:l]	NL654983	247 S	OR
Taigh an Dà Mhàil <i>house of the two rents</i> Alias: Tobht' a' Mhàil, Taigh a' Mhàil Taigh a' Mhàil or Taigh an Dà Mhàil was the house where the rent collector lived. Some people called it Taigh an Dà Mhàil as the rent was collected twice a year.	[t'øjən ,da 'vã:l]	NL654983	247 S	OR
Taigh an Daoimein <i>house of Diamond</i> Alias: Taigh Cacelti 'Diamond' is a nickname.	[t'øjə 'døimən]	NF711017	231 S	OR
Taigh an Tairbh <i>house of the bull</i> Alias: Bothag an Tairbh, A' Bhlianag Ghorm	[t'øjən 'dʊrəv]	NF725016	231 E	OR
Taigh an Tairbh <i>house of the bull</i>	[t'øjən 'dʊrəv]	NF671040	231 R	OR
Taigh Bhodaich nam Poc <i>house of the man of the sacks</i>	[t'øj ,vɔdɪçnəm 'p'ɔʰk]	NL644989	247 S	OR
Taigh Cacelti <i>house of Cacelti</i> Alias: Taigh an Daoimein Cacelti is a nickname.	[t'øj 'k'akelti]	NF711017	231 S	OR
Taigh Choinnich <i>Kenneth's house</i>	[t'øj 'xɔɲɪç]	NF715015	231 S	OR
Taigh Eaton <i>Eaton's house</i> It is not known whether Eaton was a nickname or possibly the name of an English family in Barra.	[t'øj 'i:tən]	NF709005	231 S	OR
Taigh Fhearchair Mhóir <i>Big Farquhar's house</i>	[t'øj ,fɛrəxar 'voɪr]	NF712017	231 S	OR
Taigh Floraidh Ulag <i>house of Flora (of) William</i>	[t'øj ,flori 'ulak]	NF714014	231 S	OR
Taigh fo Thalamh <i>house under the earth</i>	[t'øj fɔ 'həlu]	NF723018	231 S	OR

Taigh fo Thalamh <i>house under the earth</i> Alias: Tigh Talamhanta	[t'øj fə 'hɑlu]	NF678022	231 A	OR
Taigh Gillespie <i>Gillespie's house</i>	[t'øj ,gɪ'lespi]	NF716013	231 S	OR
Taigh Lachlainn <i>Lachlann's house</i> This primary name is extracted from Creag Taigh Lachlainn.	[t'øj 'Laxlən]	NF708004	231 S	OR
Taigh nan Eilean <i>house of the islands</i> See An t-Eilean Beag.	[t'øjnə 'nel'ɛN]	NF756046	231 S	OR
Taigh nan Sàileach <i>house of the people from Kintail</i>	[t'øjnə 'sa:lɔx]	NF711018	231 S	OR
Taigh Ruairidh Ruaidh <i>Red Roderick's house</i> Alias: Taigh Scalda	[t'øj ,Ruɑɾi 'Ruaj]	NF673013	231 S	OR
Taigh Scalda <i>Scalda's house</i> Alias: Taigh Ruairidh Ruaidh Roderick MacLennan remembers this house being called Taigh Ruairidh Ruaidh. It is now a museum.	[t'øj 'skaldɔ]	NF673013	231 S	OR
Taigh Sheòrais Eachainn <i>George (of) Hector's house</i>	[t'øj ,ʃɔ:ɾəs ɛ'axaN]	NF715013	231 S	OR
Taigh Stòir <i>store house</i>	[t'øj 'stɔ:ɾ]	NF711033	231 S	OR
Tangasdale <i>valley of the promontory</i> 1695 Tangstill, 1794b Tangestal, 1805 -, 1823 Tangusdale, 1825 Tangestill, 1848 Tangusdale ON tangi, m, 'headland' and ON dalr, m, 'valley'. Borgstrøm derives the generic from ON stōðull, m, 'milking-place'. However, Tangasdale also fulfils the geographic requirements of a valley.	['tɑŋgəsdəl]	NF651004	231 S	OS*
Taobh a' Bhàigh <i>side of the bay</i> See Am Bàgh.	[t'ɑ:və 'vɑ:ɟ]	NL657987	247 W	OR
Taobh a' Bhàigh <i>side of the bay</i> See Am Bàgh.	[t'ɑ:və 'vɑ:ɟ]	NL665981	247 W	OR
Taobh an Iar <i>west side</i>	[t'ɑ:və 'Niər]	NL558807	260 R	OR

Taobh Chatarsaigh <i>side of C.</i> See Catarsaigh.	[t'ʌ:v 'hataʃəi]	NL544819	260 R	OR
Taobhan Beag <i>little side</i> Alias: An Taobh Beag	[t'ʌ:van 'bək]	NL601895	260 R	OR
Tar Rock 1874 -	['tar ,rɔk]	NF714074	231 I	AD
Tea Rooms Alias: Na Creagan Móra This name designates an accumulation of stones. The MacNeils of Rubha Chàrnain used to have picnics at this place.	['ti: ,rums]	NF728009	231 R	OR
The Aird <i>the mountain</i>	[ði 'ɑ:ɹd]	NL570802	260 R	OS
The Banks <i>the banks</i>	[ðə 'baŋks]	NL613873	260 U	OR
The Croig 1901 Crog This place is also called Cròic or A' Chròic. Dwelly (1901:276) lists 'deer's antler', 'rage', 'difficulty'. Ronald Black adds that this element is common in place-names meaning a 'lumpy rock' or 'rocky place' that is surrounded by heaped-up vegetation. The idea of the heaped-up crown is what it has in common with 'deer's antler'. An alternative meaning could be obtained from ON krókr, 'bend'. This conforms with the geographic conditions of the curved mountain ridge. Kroken is a popular settlement name in Norway. (See Rygh, NG12:47)	[ðə 'k'rɔiɿk]	NL657997	247 R	OS
The Faing <i>the enclosure</i>	[ðə 'fæŋg]	NL681986	247 E	OR
The Glebe <i>the glebe</i>	[ðə 'gli:b]	NF673033	231 F	OR
The Glen <i>the valley</i> 1823 Glen	[ðə 'glen]	NL673986	247 S	OS*
The Green	[ðə 'gri:n]	NF705077	231 F	OR
The Hoe <i>the hill</i> 1823 Hoemore Alias: An t-Aonach Pabach From ON haugr, m, 'hill'.	[ðə 'ho:]	NL594873	260 R	OS*
The Lagoon	[ðə lə'gu:n]	NF761045	231 W	OR

the lagoon

The Lamb's Footprints [ðə ˌlambz ˈfʊtprɪnts] NF680051 231 R OR
 The Maclean manuscript number 8233 lists Leac Luirg, 'flagstone of the footprint', as an alternative version. Spòg an Deamhain, 'the devil's paw', is in the same area.

The Perch [ðə ˈpɜːʃ] NL645951 247 I OR
 Alias: Sgeir 'IcillEathain, Sgeir Feannaig, Am Botch

The Red Boy [ðə ˌred ˈbɔɪ] NL566851 260 I OS*
 1823 Gillachanruagh
 Alias: Na Gillean Ruadh
 The translation for the 1823 entry is 'little red boy'. The OS list this name in singular. In conversation the form Na Gillean Ruadh is used, the diminutive seemingly having been misunderstood as a plural form.

The Square [ðə ˈskwɛr] NL631944 247 O OR
the square

The Square [ðə ˈskwɛr] NF703078 231 O OR
the square

The Stoung [ðə ˈstɒŋ] NL623958 247 R OR
the mast
 See Stoung Beag and Stoung Mór.

Tigh Talamhanta [ˌtʰɔj ˌtʰalaˈvãʰtɔ] NF676033 231 A OS
earth house
 Alias: Taigh fo Thalamh

Tobar a' Chadha [ˌtʰopərə ˈxɑː] NF682047 231 W OR
well of the pass

Tobar a' Chnuic [ˌtʰopərə ˈkʰrũɪçkʰ] NF717033 231 W OR
well of the hill

Tobar a' Mhachaire [ˌtʰopərə ˈvaxərə] NF658013 231 W OR
well of the fertile plain

Tobar a' Mhoil [ˌtʰopərə ˈvɔL] NF695080 231 W OR
pebbly beach well
 As the specific is f, the correct form should be Tobar na Moil(e) or Mola. See A' Mhol.

Tobar a' Mhuilinn [ˌtʰopərə ˈvʊLˈɪN] NF663035 231 W OR
well of the mill

Tobar Ailein [ˌtʰopər ˈæLən] NF715011 231 W OR
Allan's well
 Alias: Tobar Ailein 'Illeasbaig

Tobar Ailein 'Illeasbaig [ˌtʰopər ˌæLən ˌɪlˈɛspi] NF715011 231 W OR

Allan (son of) Archibald's well

Alias: Tobar Ailein

Tobar Ailig	[t'opər 'ɛlik]	NF719029	231 W	OR
<i>Ailig's well</i>				
Alias: Tobar MhicRath				

Tobar an Dùghallaich	[t'opərən 'd̪ualɪç]	NF659010	231 W	OR
<i>MacDougall's well</i>				

Tobar an Fhuarain	[t'opərə 'Nu:rən]	NF702021	231 W	OR
<i>well of the spring</i>				

Tobar an Rosaich	[t'opərə 'Rɔsɪç]	NL691983	247 W	OR
<i>Ross's well</i>				

Tobar an Sgàthain	[t'opərən 'sk'aʰan]	NL641986	247 W	OR
<i>well of the mirror</i>				

Tobar Aonghais	[t'opərə'Nɛ:ɪʃ]	NF720023	231 W	OR
<i>Angus's well</i>				

Tobar Bhannanaich	[t'opər 'vaNanɪç]	NF708034	231 W	OR
<i>Buchanan's well</i>				

Tobar Bharra	[t'opər 'vaRai]	NF706075	231 W	OR*
<i>St. Barr's well</i>				

1695 Well of Kilbarr, 1764 St. Barrs well

Possibly the saint's name has been assimilated to the name of the island.

Tobar Chaigearraidh	[t'opər 'xaɪgaRi]	NF663034	231 W	OR
<i>well of ? enclosure</i>				

A combination of G tobar, 'well', an unknown element and G gearraidh, a loan from ON gerði, 'fenced field', 'enclosure'.

Tobar Chailein	[t'opər 'xalain]	NF708072	231 W	OR
<i>Colin's well</i>				

Tobar Chaluim Cille	[t'opər 'xalʊm ,kɪlɔ]	NL650996	247 W	OR
<i>St. Columba's well</i>				

This place is frequented as one of the stations of the cross.

Tobar de Glen	[t'opərdə 'glen]	NF713063	231 W	OR
<i>de Glen's well</i>				

The de Glens were a French family on whose ground the well was located.

Tobar Dhuggain	[t'opərə 'ɣugain]	NL683997	247 W	OR
<i>Father Duggan's well</i>				

Tobar Druim na Crìche	[t'opər ,d̪ruimnə 'k'ri:çə]	NL637942	247 W	OR
<i>well of D.</i>				

See Druim na Crìche.

Tobar Eòin Néill Bhig <i>well of Jonathan of little Neil</i>	[t'opər ,e'auɪn ,N̪ɛ:l'vɪk]	NF724018	231 W	OR
Tobar Fhionnlaigh <i>Finlay's well</i>	[t'opər 'ju:ləɪ]	NL653985	247 W	OR
Tobar Fogain <i>Fogan's well</i> 'Fogan' is a nickname.	[t'opər 'fɔɡaɪn]	NF669031	231 W	OR
Tobar Fuaran Iain Shomhairle <i>well of Ian (son of) Sorley's spring</i>	[t'opər 'fuərən ,i:aɪn 'hɔɹlʃ]	NF723017	231 W	OR
Tobar Glaic na Mòna <i>well of G.</i> See Glaic na Mòna.	[t'opər ɡlaɪkənə 'mɔ:nɔ]	NF720027	231 W	OR
Tobar Iain Shomhairle <i>Iain (son of) Sorley's well</i>	[t'opər ,i:aɪn 'hɔɹlʃ]	NF714017	231 W	OR
Tobar Iarainn <i>iron well</i>	[t'opər 'iərɪn]	NF715034	231 W	OR
Tobar Lag nan Laogh <i>well of L.</i> See Lag nan Laogh.	[t'opər ,lɑkənən 'Lɑ:ɹ]	NL693994	247 W	OR
Tobar Lèan' an Eich <i>well of L.</i> See Lèan' an Eich.	[t'opər ,liənə 'Neɔ]	NL662959	247 W	OR
Tobar MhicRath <i>MacRae's well</i> Alias: Tobar Ailig	[t'opəriɔk 'Rɑ]	NF719029	231 W	OR
Tobar MhicUaraig <i>Kennedy's well</i>	[t'opəriɔk 'u:Rɪk]	NL641959	247 W	OR
Tobar Mhicheil na h-Aibhne <i>well of Michael of the River</i>	[t'opər ,vɪʃələnə 'hainʃ]	NF663015	231 W	OR
Tobar Mór Ghriogail <i>Marian (daughter of) Gregor's well</i>	[t'opər ,mɔ:r 'ɡrɪɡəl]	NF657018	231 W	OR
Tobar na Bà <i>well of the cow</i>	[t'opərnə 'bɑ:]	NF697074	231 W	OR
Tobar na Cuidhe	[t'opərnə 'kuiɔ]	NL674984	247 W	OR

well of the enclosure

See A' Chuidhe.

Tobar na Morrach <i>Morrison's well (?) , the Murrays' well</i>	[,t'opərnə 'mɔRax]	NF662034	231 W	OR
Tobar na Slàinte <i>well of good health</i>	[,t'opərnə 'slā:ŋd̪ə]	NF666045	231 W	OR
Tobar na Square <i>well of the square</i> The specific is English.	[,t'opərnə 'skwɛ:r]	NL630944	247 W	OR
Tobar nam Bodach <i>well of the old men</i>	[,t'opərnəm 'bɔdax]	NF716016	231 W	OR
Tobar nan Ceann <i>well of the heads</i>	[,t'opərnə 'ŋg̊ɛuN]	NF731078	231 W	OR
Tobar nan Coineanach <i>well of the rabbits</i> G coineanach, m, a loan from MEng. cunin, 'rabbit', 'coney'.	[,t'opərnə 'ŋg̊ɔnjenɔx]	NF709037	231 W	OR
Tobar nan Luch <i>well of the mice</i>	[,t'opərnən 'lux]	NF662033	231 W	OR
Tobar Nead Choileach <i>well of the nest of the grouse</i>	[,t'opər ,N'it 'x'øljax]	NL693990	247 W	OR
Tobar Peigi na Cùile <i>well of Peggy of the Neuk</i>	[,t'opər ,peginə 'ku:lɔ]	NL697994	247 W	OR
Tobar Sgurabhail <i>well of S.</i> See Scurrival.	[,t'opər 'skʊrɪvəl]	NF698093	231 W	OR
Tobar Shandaidh Apel <i>Sandy Apel's well</i> Sandy Apel, received his nickname due to a letter from South Uist which addressed him as John MacKinnon, Able Seaman.	[,t'opər ,handi 'apəl]	NF722021	231 W	OR
Tobht' a' Ghreusaiche <i>ruin of the shoemaker</i> 1814 Tobhtaghrisadh H. Sharbau's estate plan of 1901 shows an unnamed house at this site.	[,t'oʰt'ə 'g̊riəsɪçə]	NF703021	231 S	CR
Tobht' Ailein <i>Allan's ruin</i>	[,t'oʰt' 'æləŋ]	NF704033	231 S	OR
Tobht' Ailein <i>Allan's ruin</i>	[,t'oʰt' 'æləŋ]	NF713011	231 S	OR

A possible alternative location is NF715002.

Tobht' Annag Eòin <i>ruin of Anna of Jonathan</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,a ^h nak e'auin]	NF715010	231 S	OR
Tobhta Bean Dhòmhnaill <i>ruin of Donald's wife</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,bɛn 'ɾɔ̃-əL]	NF714014	231 S	OR
Tobhta Bhuller <i>Buller's ruin</i> Alias: Tobhta Roddy Mhìcheil Sir Redvers Buller was the name of a general in the Boer War. At the turn of the century the name became a popular by-name for people with heavy moustaches.	[,t'o ^h tə 'vulər]	NF714013	231 S	OR
Tobhta Chatriona <i>Catherine's ruin</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,xa'triənɔ̃]	NF672039	231 S	OR
Tobhta Dhòmhnaill 'ic Mhurch' 'c Fhionnlaigh <i>ruin of Donald son of Murdoch of Finlay</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,ɾɔ̃-əLiçk ,vɯRiç 'ju:ləʃ]	NL653994	247 S	OR
Tobhta Dhòmhnaill Raghnaill Mhóir <i>ruin of Donald son of Big Ronald</i> This ruin lies north of Tobhta Raghnaill Dhùghaill.	[,t'o ^h tə ,ɾɔ̃-əL, Rø-əL'vo:r]	NF713015	231 S	OR
Tobhta Dhòmhnaill Ruairidh <i>ruin of Donald (of) Roderick</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,ɾɔ̃-əL'Ruəri]	NF712019	231 S	OR
Tobhta Driseach <i>thorny ruin</i> 1813 Tota Dhrisach Driseach is the G adj. for 'thorny'. It is closely related to dris, f, 'brambles'.	[t'o ^h tə 'driʃax]	NL669982	247 S	CR
Tobhta Floraidh Chaluim <i>ruin of Flora daughter of Malcolm</i>	[,t'o ^h tə ,floRi 'xalɯm]	NF711016	231 S	OR
Tobhta Fogain <i>Fogan's ruin</i> 'Fogan' is a nickname.	[,t'o ^h tə 'fɔ̃gain]	NF669030	231 S	OR
Tobhta Mhosach <i>filthy ruin</i>	[,t'o ^h tə 'vɔ̃sɔ̃x]	NL641978	247 S	OR
Tobhta na h-Eireig <i>ruin of the pullet</i>	[,t'o ^h tənə 'he:rik]	NF667008	231 S	OR
Tobhta nam Mealbhachan <i>ruin of the little sandy hillocks</i>	[,t'o ^h tə nə'mealaxən]	NF696070	231 S	OR

Tobhta Necky <i>Necky's ruin</i>	[t'oʰtə 'næki]	NL638956	247 S	OR
Tobhta Raghnaill Dhùghaill <i>ruin of Ronald (of) Dougall</i> This ruin lies south of Tobhta Dhòmhnail Raghnaill.	[t'oʰtə ,Rø-əl'ɣu-əl]	NF713015	231 S	OR
Tobhta Raonaid <i>Rachel's ruin</i>	[t'oʰtə 'Rʌ:natʰ]	NF714012	231 S	OR
Tobhta Roddy Mhìcheil <i>ruin of Roddy (of) Michael</i> Alias: Tobhta Bhuller	[t'oʰtə ,Rɔ̃di 'vĩ:çəl]	NF714013	231 S	OR
Tobhta Ruaig <i>Ruaig's ruin</i> Ruaig is the nickname of Roderick Gillies who drowned off Innisgeir in November 1924 in a boat nicknamed <i>Duldag</i>	[t'oʰtə 'Ru:ək]	NL647963	247 S	OR
Tobhta Scan <i>Scan's ruin</i>	[t'oʰtə 'sk'an]	NF714015	231 S	OR
Tobhtaichean Dhòmhnail Sheumais <i>ruins of Donald (of) James</i>	[t'oʰtiçən ,ɣɔ̃-əl'he:mɪʃ]	NL622962	247 S	OR
Tobhtaichean Iain 'icCuillich <i>John MacCulloch's ruin</i>	[t'oʰtiçən ,i:aĩNiç 'kùliç]	NF682041	231 S	OR
Tobhtaichean na h-Àirigh <i>ruins of the shieling</i>	[t'oʰtiçənə 'hɑ:ri]	NF756045	231 S	OR
Toll na Béiste <i>hollow of the beast</i> G biast, gen. case béiste, f, a loan from Lat. bestia, 'monster'.	[t'ɔ̃ulnə 'bɛ:ftjə]	NF728021	231 R	OR
Tom a' Bhata <i>round knoll of the stick</i>	[t'aumə 'vaʰtʃ]	NL631914	247 R	OR
Tom a' Mhaide <i>round knoll of the driftwood</i> Alias: Beinn Slétta The OS location of this place has been moved from NL555835 further south as indicated in the current NGR.	[t'aumə 'vaçɔ̃]	NL554833	260 R	OS
Tom a' Reithead <i>round knoll of the young ram</i> 1865 Ram Head	[t'aumə 'reʰən]	NL569848	260 R	OS*
Tom an Rùtain	[t'aumə 'Ru:dan]	NL572852	260 R	OR

round knoll of the ram

Tom an Rùtain, ‘knoll of the ram’, corresponds with Tom a’ Reithean, ‘knoll of the young ram’. G rùta, m, a loan from ON hrútr, m, ‘ram’.

Tom na Beinne [t’aumnə ‘bɛnəɹ] NL551836 260 R OR
round knoll of the mountain

This is a primary name extracted from Lot Mhór Tom na Beinne.

Tor Gormlaig [t’ɔr ‘gɔrəmlak’] NF709034 231 R OS*
hillock of the blue flagstone
1823 Torgormhulach, 1878 Tòrr Gormlach

Tràigh a Deas Shanndraigh [ˌdraiːəˈdʒɛs ‘haundrɛi] NL653910 247 R OR
south beach of Sandray
Alias: An Tràigh a Deas
See Sandray.

Tràigh a’ Bhàigh [ˌt’ra ‘vāiːj] NL634949 247 R OR
beach of the bay
See Am Bàgh.

Tràigh a’ Ghoirtein [ˌt’raiːə ‘rɔrʃtən] NL632980 247 R OS
beach of the garden
See Goirtein.

Tràigh a’ Mhealairt [ˌt’raiːə ‘vɛlɔst] NL694985 247 R OR
beach of M.
See Mealast.

Tràigh Allathasdail [ˌt’raiːj ‘alɔ-asdəl] NF657037 231 R OR
beach of A.
Alias: Tràigh na Cuidhe
See Allasdale.

Tràigh Bhàn [ˌt’raiːj ‘vā:m] NF737095 231 R OS*
white beach
1874 White Sand Bay
Alias: Tràigh Mhadasdail

Tràigh Bheag Dhrolum [ˌt’raiːj ,vɛk ‘ɹɔːlʊm] NF729019 231 R OR
little beach of D.
See Drolum.

Tràigh Chaise [ˌt’raiːj ‘xaiːʃ] NF651015 231 R OS6”
cheese beach

Tràigh Charaighrich [ˌt’raiːj ‘xaragriːʃ] NL656961 247 R OR
beach of the brindled rock
See Caragrich Island.

Tràigh Chliaid [ˌt’raiːj ‘xliat’] NF671049 231 R OR

beach of C.

1901 Bomore Strand

The historic form from 1901 is unknown to locals. The primary name Am Bogha Mór which forms part of this name is located to the north of the village and is still in use. See Cleat.

Tràigh Chordail Mór [t'ra:j xɔrdəl 'mo:r] NF739083 231 R OR
beach of C.
 See Cordale Mór.

Tràigh Cille-bharra [t'ra:j kilə 'vaRɔ] NF711066 231 R OS*
beach of C.
 1874 Kilbar Strand
 See Kilbar.

Tràigh Eais [t'ra:j'ɛa:j] NF693068 231 R OS*
 1823 Trailhiaish, 1874 West Strand, 1878 Traigh Uais, 1901 West Strand
 A combination of G tràigh, f, 'beach' and maybe ON eyrr, f, 'sand island'. T. is the second largest beach on Barra.

Tràigh Eòrasdail [t'ra ɛ'ɔ:Rɪsdəl] NL648940 247 R OR
beach of E.
 A combination of G tràigh, f, 'beach', ON eyrr, f, 'sand island' and ON dalr, m, 'valley'. See Eorisdale.

Tràigh Hamara [t'ra:j 'hamara] NF655026 231 R OS
beach of the steep rock
 ON hamarr, m, 'steep rock', 'steep hillside'.

Tràigh Mhadasdail [t'ra:j 'vʌdəsɔdəl] NF736095 231 R OR
beach of M.
 Alias: Tràigh Bhàn
 See Maddasdale.

Tràigh Mhór [t'ra:j 'vo:r] NF702057 231 R OS*
big beach
 1549 Trayrmore, 1764 Craymore of Kilbarra, 1823 Traivore, 1865 Trigh Vore

Tràigh na Bìgeil [t'ra:jnə 'bi:gəl] NF765045 231 R OR
beach of the chirping

Tràigh na Cuidhe [t'ra:jnə 'kuiɕ] NF657037 231 R OR
beach of the fold
 Alias: Tràigh Allathasdail
 See A' Chuidhe.

Tràigh na Halman [t'ra:jnə 'haLəman] NF649004 231 R OR
half-moon beach
 Alias: Tràigh Thangasdail
 See Halaman Bay.

Tràigh na Reill [t'ra:jnə Re:l] NF728085 231 R OS*

beach of the stars

1823 Trainareill, 1874 Trigh na Real

The star is used as a metaphor for brightness. Indeed, the sandy beaches of the Hebrides have an intense brightness.

Tràigh Orosaigh [ˌtˈraːj ˈɔɾɔ-ɔsɛi] NL706994 247 R OR
beach of O.
 See Orosay.

Tràigh Phabaigh [ˌtˈraːj ˈfapˈɛi] NL609874 260 R OR
beach of P.
 See Pabbay.

Tràigh Scurrival [ˌtˈraːj ˈskʊɾiɪvəl] NF705087 231 R OS*
beach of S.
 1823 Traiscurrival, 1874 Trigh Scurrival
 See Scurrival.

Tràigh Shanndraigh [ˌtˈraːj ˈhauŋdrɛi] NL650921 247 R OR
beach of S.
 Alias: An Tràigh Bheag
 See Sandray.

Tràigh Siar [ˌtˈraːj ˈʃiər] NL629952 247 R OR
west beach
 1823 Traihui

Tràigh Thangasdail [ˌtˈraːj ˈhaŋgæsdəl] NF649004 231 R OR
beach of T.
 Alias: Tràigh na Halman
 See Tangasdale.

Tràigh Tuath [ˌtˈraːj ˈtʰuð] NF653022 231 R OS
north beach

Tràigh Vialish [ˌtˈraːj ˈvialɪʃ] NL618972 247 R OS
beach + ?
 1878 Traigh Vanish
 See Eilean Vialish.

Trallisker [ˌtˈraliskˈerʃ] NF726089 231 T OS*
? + skerry
 1823 Traillisker, 1874 Trigh le Sgeir
 The generic is derived from ON sker, n, ‘skerry’. The specific is uncertain. A derivation from G traill, f, ‘tusk’ appears unlikely in this word order. However, there was no plausible match with a word of ON origin.

Tresivick [ˌtˈreːʃivɪkʃ] NL570795 260 W OS*
bay of the current
 1865 Trasibeg Bay
 The specific is likely to be derived from Nynorsk træsa, v, ‘to circulate restlessly’. There is a Tresfjord in Norway (see Sandnes, 1976:320). The OS located this place incorrectly at NL569797.

Twin Rocks 1865 - Alias: Bogha Dubh an Dùin, Am Bogha Dubh	[ˈtwin ˌrɒks]	NL541819	260 U	AD
Uaigh an Eich <i>grave of the horse</i>	[ˌuəj əˈneç]	NL649983	247 R	OR
Uaigh na Cailliche <i>grave of the old woman</i>	[ˌuəjnə ˈkˈaliçə]	NF717012	231 R	OR
Uaigh na Cailliche <i>grave of the old woman</i> The body of an old woman was washed ashore at this point.	[ˌuəjnə ˈkˈaliçə]	NF698051	231 R	OR
Uaighean nan Spàinteach <i>graves of the Spaniards</i> The name commemorates the site at which three sailors are buried. The sailors were actually from a Portuguese ship.	[ˌuəjənən ˈspɑːntjɔ̃x]	NF766042	231 R	OR
Uamh 'icPhearsain <i>MacPherson's cave</i>	[ˌuɑːˌviçk ˈfɛʃən]	NL625995	247 R	OR
Uamh an Òir <i>cave of gold</i>	[ˌuɑv əˈnɔːr]	NF675049	231 R	OR
Uamh an Òir <i>the cave of gold</i> There are a several stories of underground passages leading from the caves in Cleat to other caves on the island. The Uamh an Òir of the Rubha Mór is believed to be one possible exit. Other informants locate An Uamh Òir or Uamh an Òir at NL692976.	[ˌuɑv əˈnɔːr]	NL682972	247 O	OR
Uamh an t-Saighdeir <i>cave of the soldier</i> G saighdear, m, a loan from MEng. soudiour, 'soldier'.	[ˌuɑvən ˈtˈoiçə]	NF703022	231 R	OR
Uamh Chliaid <i>cave of C.</i> Alias: An Uamh See Cleat.	[əˌNuɑ ˌxlˈiaɪf]	NF673049	231 R	OR
Uamh Dùn Sgurabhail <i>cave of D.</i> 1878 Uamh an Duin The OS mark a cave at this location. See Dùn Scurrival.	[ˌuɑv ˌdun ˈskʊɾiʋəl]	NF695079	231 R	OR
Uamh Ghunamul <i>cave of G.</i> See Gunamul.	[ˌuɑv ˈɣʉnəmʉl]	NL548824	260 R	OR
Uamh MhicAilein	[ˌuɑviçk ˈælain]	NL653974	247 R	OR

MacAllan's cave

Uamh Mór a' Charaidh [ˌuãv ˌmo:rə ˈxari] NL630984 247 R OR
big cave of the fish-trap (?)

Ronald Black suggests that since uamh and cairidh are both nouns of f gender we may be dealing with 'the cave of Marian of the fish-trap'.

Uamh na Carraige Baine [ˌuãvnə ˌkarikə ˈbã:njɔ̃] NL572848 260 R OR
cave of the white fishing rock

Uamh na Cuidhe Bige [ˌuãvnə ˌkuie ˈbikɔ̃] NL651974 247 R OR
cave of the little fold

"This cave was Ian MacPherson's first hiding place after having deserted from the army. The constables apparently came over Heatherhill. He came along Horough, and they followed him with dogs. He saved himself by jumping across An Sruth." Malcolm MacNeil. See A' Chuidhe.

Uamh nan Calman [ˌuãvnə ˈŋgɔ̃laman] NF652049 231 R ML
cave of the pigeons
 1823 Unacalaman

Ùdrathad Port na Mnà [ˈuxtɾa-ət ˌpɔ̃ʃtnə ˈmrã:] NF716012 231 O OR
common road to P.
 See An Ùdrathad and Port na Mnà.

Uidh [ˈuj] NL653960 247 S OS*
isthmus, ford
 1823 Uiehead, 1833 Uigh, 1836 Aoidh, 1851 Uie
 G uidh, f, a loan from ON eið, f, 'isthmus', 'neck of land'.

Uinessan [ˈuɲjesan] NL665956 247 T OS*
isthmus of the small waterfall
 1823 Vieinssen, 1865 Unessan
 A combination of G ùidh, f, a loan from ON eið, 'isthmus', 'neck of land' and the diminutive form of G eas, m, 'waterfall'.

Ùlabrac [ˈu:ləbraxkʰ] NF640007 231 R OR
slope of the wolf
 A combination of ON ulfr, m, 'wolf' and ON brekka, f, 'slope'. This name refers to a point or a fishing rock.

Upper Bruernish [ˌʌpər ˈbru:ɾɲiʃ] NF725019 231 S OR
upper B.
 Alias: Cnoc nan Caorach
 See Bruernish.

Usborne's Well [ˌɔ̃sbɔ̃rns ˈwel] NL562804 260 W OS*
 1865 -
 "This name is given to a small spring well, now almost closed, and in dry weather quite dry, which is situated near the northern side of Eilean Bernera. It was dug by and named after one of Captain Otter's men, when making a nautical survey of this island." OS Object Name Book.

- Vasgeir** [ˈvaːʃkˈerˈ] NL639938 247 R OR
 ? + *skerry*
 Alias: Leac Vasgeir
 The meaning of the first syllable is obscure.
- Vaslain** [ˈvaːslən] NF693054 231 S OS*
water land
 1823 Vaslan, 1825 Vaslin
 A combination of ON vatn, n, ‘water’, here in gen. case and ON land, n, ‘piece of land’.
- Vatersay** [ˈvaːtəʃeɪ] NL631960 247 I OS*
 1549 Wattersay, 1695 Vattersay, 1764 Vatersay, 1794a Watersay, 1824 Vatersa, 1845 Watersay, 1846 Vatersay, 1848 Watersay I., 1854 Watersa, 1865 Vatersay Island
 A derivation from ON vatn, n, ‘water’ seems almost impossible as this word combined with a generic would have been ‘Vatsay’ in ON. The specific may be related to ON veðr, n, ‘weather side’ as much of the coastline is exposed to the westerly winds. However, a connection to ON vaðill, m, ‘ford’, may also be possible as the northern and the southern half of the island are connected by a thin neck of land. The generic is derived from ON øy, f, ‘island’.
- Vatersay Bay** [ˈvaːtəʃeɪ ˈbeː] NL646952 247 W OS
 Alias: Am Bàgh
- Vatersay House** [ˈvaːtəʃeɪ ˈhaus] NL629944 247 S OS
- Vatersay Village** [ˈvaːtəʃeɪ ˈviləʒ] NL633943 247 S OS
 Alias: An Scarp
- Vialish Rocks** NF716089 231 U SH
rocks of the isthmus of the headland (?)
 Local informants corrected the OS entry of *Eilean Vialish* to Eilean Vianish. This sound change may also apply to the above name.
- Warrior’s Grave** NF652014 231 A SH
 The OS list ‘standing stones’ at this site.
- Wedding Point** [ˈwediŋ ˌpoint] NL550820 260 R AD
 1865-
 Alias: Bannish, Rubha Bheanais
- West Sand** NL626936 247 R SH
 Alias: An t-Sùil Ghainmheineach
West Sand corresponds to *Centre Sand* and *North Sand* close by.

5 Naming Intention

The system of grouping place-names after their specifics, as developed by STEWART, will form the basis for discussion of the naming intention behind the place-names of Barra. Based on ten categories, the system helps to classify the naming pattern in a given territory and also allows for borderline cases. Stewart established the following groups:¹³⁰

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Descriptive names | 6. Commendatory names |
| 2. Associative names | 7. Folk-etymologies |
| 3. Incident-names | 8. Manufactured names |
| 4. Possessive names | 9. Mistake-names |
| 5. Commemorative names | 10. Shift-names |

5.1 Descriptive Names

5.1.1 Sensory

Names occurring in this group reference either colour, size, shape, material, sound, touch, smell or taste.

5.1.1.1 Visual

Colours

Nearly all names containing colours as specifics are of Gaelic (G) origin. The perception of colour amongst Celtic people differs immensely from that of English, Scandinavian or central European peoples. In Gaelic the hues of natural features may be described more precisely through the wider range of terms available. In the following list all colours occurring as part of place-names will be translated, analysed and illustrated with examples from Barra toponymics.

Dubh

‘black’, ‘dark’, ‘sad’, ‘disastrous’, ‘wicked’, ‘dark-haired’

Dubh is the most popular colour and occurs in 59 names, of which 53 are primary names. It covers a wide range of both coastal and interior features and is productive in names such as *An Abhainn Dhubh*, *Am Bogha Dubh*, *An Druim Dubh*, *A' Ghlaic Dhubh*, *An Lón Dubh*, *A' Phàirc Dhubh*, *An Sgeir Dhubh* and others. The

¹³⁰See G. R. Stewart, 1975:86.

most widespread combination is *An Rubha Dubh*, ‘the black promontory’, which occurs seven times.

Ruadh

‘red’, ‘brown’, ‘red-haired’¹³¹, ‘orange’, occupies a range of spectrum from ‘deep yellow’ through ‘orange’ to ‘russet’¹³²

Due to its large coverage this adjective is often used in combination with water-related features such as *An Abhainn Ruadh*, *An t-Allt Ruadh*, *An Tobar Ruadh* and *An Sgùid Ruadh*, with man-made structures like *Dùnan Ruadh* and *Na Tobhtaichean Ruadh*, and with general description of the land as in *An Tìr Ruadh*, *A’ Chreag Ruadh*, *A’ Chùil Ruadh*, *An Sìthean Ruadh* and *Am Bota Ruadh*.

The adjective *ruadh* occurs in 29 primary names with *Am Bogha Ruadh*, ‘red reef’, its most frequent combination.

Dearg

covers a spectrum from ‘pink’ to ‘purple’

This word is also used synonymously for blood and wound and is associated with fire. It is part of only six primary names and is mainly used with water-based places. Examples including this element are *Am Bogha Dearg*, *An Cladach Dearg*, *Na Sgeirean Dearga* and *An Caolas Dearg*.

Liath

‘pale’, ‘silver-grey’, ‘pale blue’, ‘lilac’

This colour is used for describing skerries, coastal rocks and promontories and produces names like *A’ Phalla Liath*, *A’ Chreag Liath*, *An Sgeir Liath* and *An Rubha Liath*. It occurs in eleven primary names.

Bàn

‘off-white’, ‘pale’, ‘fair-haired’

This specific is used with a wide spectrum of generics covering coastal names such as *Bàgh Bàn*, *A’ Charraig Bhàn*, *An Cladach Bàn*, *Am Port Bàn*, *Tràigh Bhàn*, water-features like *An Abhainn Bhàn*, *An Caolas Bàn* and *An Sruthan Bàn*, and rocks such as *An Sgòr Bàn* and *A’ Chlach Bhàn*. The adjective *bàn* is part of 20 primary names.

Geal

‘bright’, ‘brilliant’, ‘white’

Only four names include Gaelic *geal* as a specific and all of them are land-based. There are the man-made features *An Geata Geal*, *An Goirtean Geal* and *An Taigh Geal*, and the coastal feature *An Uidh Gheal*.

¹³¹See E. Dwelly, 1901:773.

¹³²See R. Black, 1992:95.

Glas

‘grey’, ‘ashen’, ‘pale green’

As part of names for skerries, headlands and promontories, the adjective *glas* is used in eleven primary names. Examples include *An t-Eilean Glas*, *Rubha Glas*, *An Àird Ghlas* and *A’ Chuidh’ Ghlas*.

Gorm

‘blue’, ‘emerald’, ‘green of healthy growing grass and leaves’, ‘colour of smoke’, ‘colour of black, polished surfaces’

Fourteen place-names contain the specific *gorm*. Half of them are land-based and half of them are water-based, with *An Sloc Gorm* the most popular combination.

Uaine

‘yellow-green’, ‘green’, ‘between glas and gorm’

Uaine occurs in only four names and only in combination with two different generics. There is one place called *Am Bealach Uaine* and three places including *An Leac Uaine*.

Fionn ‘fair’, ‘creamy-coloured’, ‘pale’, ‘lilac’

Fionnphort on Gighay is the only name with this specific. It may be translated as ‘white harbour’ as there is a corresponding *Ruadh-Phort*¹³³ in the vicinity. However, it is possible that *Fionnphort* is a transferred name from the Isle of Iona.

Buidhe ‘yellow’, ‘golden’

This colour is found in names such as *A’ Bhuaile Bhuidhe*, *A’ Phalla Bhuidhe*, *Glac na Buidhe*, *An Goirtean Buidhe*, *Am Meall Buidhe*, *Gualainn Bhuidhe*, *An t-Sròn Bhuidhe* and *An Tom Buidhe*. *Buidhe* may be used as adjective or noun and occurs in 14 primary names. It describes mainly rocks, clefts, hills and other interior features.

5.1.1.2 Size

Approximately 7% of all place-names collected in the Barra group are characterised by a specific indicating size. Apart from the ON name *Mingulay*, ‘big island’, the only two specifics involved are *mór*, meaning ‘big’, and *beag*, meaning ‘small’, both of G origin. They are easily combined with a number of G generics and form names such as *A’ Bheinn Bheag*, *A’ Charraig Bheag* and *Am Port Mór*.

¹³³This is the OS spelling.

The most popular name in this group is *A' Chreag Mhór*, occurring five times¹³⁴ and in another three cases with additional specifics: *Creag Mhór Shannndraigh*, *Creag Mhór an Eilein* and *Creag Mhór na Brataich*.

The simplicity involved in the naming process has led to a wide distribution of these two specifics. Sometimes additional information is required in order to distinguish one place from another one with the same name.¹³⁵ In Barra we find *Sgeir Mhór na Horgh*, *Cnoc Mór Dhrolum* and *Port Beag Glaic Choinnich*, where in each case the use of a further specifying feature in the vicinity puts these names in the borderline region between the descriptive and associative classifications.

Although the three mountains called *A' Bheinn Mhór* have corresponding opposites in another three mountains called *A' Bheinn Bheag*, this is not the case for all features. The Barra group hosts three places named *An t-Eilean Mór* but five that are named *An t-Eilean Beag*. Likewise there are four locations called *An Cnoc Mór* but none called *An Cnoc Beag*. This implies that the intention of contrast is occasionally overruled by other and stronger naming motivations. There appears to be a given standard within the user group where a name composed with a specific indicating size does not necessarily require a contrasting opposite. This implies that *An t-Eilean Beag*, 'the small island', can survive onomastically without its larger brother.

The adjectives *mór* and *beag* are not restricted to only G generics, but may also be found combined with ON primary names resulting in place-names like *Flodaigh Mhór* or *Flodaigh Bheag*.

5.1.1.3 Shape

Although names describing the shape of a feature are rare in comparison to the amount of size- or colour-related names, they are highly distinctive. Examples of this group are:

<i>Na Latha-Lìn</i>	'the layered slope'	<i>An Sloc Caol</i>	'narrow gully'
<i>Bannish</i>	'straight headland'	<i>Lingay-Fhada</i>	'long heather island'
<i>Glen Bretadale</i>	'steep valley'	<i>Cora-Bheinn</i>	'pointed hill'
<i>Na Cam-alltan</i>	'the crooked burns'	<i>Brevig</i>	'broad bay'

¹³⁴This number includes the OS version of this name, *Creag Mhór*.

¹³⁵As discussed in the second chapter.

5.1.1.4 Material

The most common material on Barra is stone and this is reflected in its place-names. There is *An Taigh Chlach*, ‘the stone house’, *An Torr Chlach*, ‘the stony round hillock’ and *An t-Eilean Creagach*, ‘the rocky island’. Other materials are less often reflected in names. Examples are *A’ Chreag Ghainmheineach*, ‘the sandy fishing rock’, *An Sloc Gainmheineach*, ‘the sandy gully’, and *Rubha Greotach*, the ‘gravelly promontory’. This group is very small.

5.1.1.5 Hearing

In contrast to the overwhelming number of visually inspired place-names, only few names contain sound-related specifics. There is *Am Bogha Tàimh*, ‘the quiet reef’, and *Creag Labhar*, ‘speaking rock’. The name *Sgeir a’ Mhùin*, ‘urinating skerry’ is likely to describe the sound of the waves rushing over the rock.

5.1.1.6 Touch

Only three place-names were found to illustrate this group. There is *An Càrn Garbh*, ‘the rough cairn’, *An Tràigh Gharbh*, ‘the rough beach’, and *Gara Cruaidh*, the ‘hard enclosure’.

5.1.1.7 Smell / Taste

Only one primary name included an adjective pointing at smell: *A’ Charraig Bhreun*, the ‘stinking fishing rock’. It is repeated in the secondary name *Eilean Carraig Bhreun*.

5.1.2 Relative Location

Specifics indicating relative location may be divided into five groups: the vertical, the horizontal, compass directions, chronology, and a special group in which the specifics correspond to the location of parts of the human body.

Vertical

In the group emphasising vertical distinction there are names such as

<i>A' Phàirc Àrd</i>	'the high enclosure'
<i>Pàirc a' Mheadhoin</i>	'the middle enclosure'
<i>A' Phàirc Ìseal</i>	'the low enclosure'
<i>Upper Bruernish</i>	
<i>Lower Bruernish</i>	

The contrasting elements indicate a higher or lower and, occasionally, a middle position. G *àrd*, 'high', and G *iseal*, 'low', are the most often used specifics in this group. Names indicating relative vertical location without having a counterpart were *Taigh fo Thalamh*, the 'house under ground', and *A' Chorrairigh*, the 'lofty shieling'.

Horizontal

In this group the G specifics *a-muigh* for 'outer' and *a-staigh* for 'inner' dominate. As in the group of vertical relative location there are also examples of names indicating a middle position. There is *An Caolas a-muigh*, *Caolas Mheadhoin* and *An Caolas a-staigh*, the 'outer', 'middle' and 'inner sound'. However, the more widespread usage is to contrast just the inner and the outer location. Although G specifics are most frequent, there are examples of English elements, such as *Inner Heisker* and *Outer Heisker*. The ON name *Fuday*, possibly meaning 'outside island', has no corresponding 'inner' name, but there are islands which are located closer to mainland Barra to act as an inner reference point.

Chronology

The contrasting specifics in this group are restricted to 'old' and 'new' and produce place-names such as *An Seann Chìdh*, 'the old pier', *An Seanna Bhaile*, 'the old village', and *A' Chachaleith Ùr*, 'the new gate'. There are also English examples in this group such as *Old Graveyard*, *Old Shielings* or the *Old Inn*. This group shows an even distribution of English and Gaelic names.

Compass points

Compass directions are popular specifics to indicate relative direction. In the Barra group there are *An Tràigh Tuath*, 'the north beach', *An Tràigh a Deas*, 'the south beach', *Bogha Chigein a Deas*, 'southern lump-shaped reef', and *Bogha Chigein an Ear*, 'eastern lump-shaped reef'. The example of *Bogha Chigein* illustrates that not necessarily opposite directions of the compass such as north and south, or east and west, are required. In the group of *An Sgùmban a Tuath*, 'the northern summit' and *An Sgùmban an Ear*, 'the eastern summit' there is an additional corresponding summit, *An Sgùmban Meadhoin*, in the middle location.

Names in this group can also be composed without having an explicit counterpart. The name *North Bay* was probably formed because it is located north of *Castle Bay*, and despite the fact that there are bays in the Barra group further north than *North Bay*.

Relative location after parts of human body

Here the specifics involved correspond to the location of parts of the human body such as Gaelic *ceann* ‘head’, *beul* ‘mouth’, *druim* ‘ridge/back’, *màs* ‘hip/buttock’, and *bun* ‘foot’. This efficient way of naming is reflected in the following examples:

<i>Druim na Muice</i>	‘back/ridge of the pig’
<i>Druim na Creige</i>	‘back/ridge of the rock’
<i>Sròn an Rubha</i>	‘nose/point of the promontory’
<i>Sròn an Dùin</i>	‘nose/point of the fort’
<i>Kinloch</i>	‘head/top of the lake’
<i>Ceann na Tràigh</i>	‘head/top of the beach’
<i>Beul a’ Bhàigh</i>	‘mouth of the bay’
<i>Beul na Creige</i>	‘mouth of the rock’

Specifics in this group are always combined with generics that could also occur as simplex names. These so-called ‘inverted clusters’ have changing specifics instead of generics. Although most names in this group are Gaelic, there are two place-names with English generics, *Greian Head* and *Barra Head*.

5.1.3 Special Knowledge

Generally, intellectual names which require some special knowledge are very rare. It is difficult to assess whether there are any place-names at all on Barra that would fall into this category. Three names are unusual enough to possibly qualify. In *Tobar Iarainn*, ‘iron well’, and in *Sloc an Iarainn*, ‘the iron gully’, it is not certain whether the namer knew about a higher iron content in the water, whether the names were given because of a rusty colour of the water, or because of an iron ship wreck. The name *Loch St. Clair*, an alternative name for the loch known variously as *Loch Tangusdale*, *Loch an Eas Dhuibhe*, *An Loch Mór* and *Loch MhicLeòid*, first appeared in a Victorian novel set in Barra.

5.1.4 Metaphorical

Metaphors are found in a number of place-names. On Fuiay there is *Bonnach Fhionnlaigh*, ‘Finlay’s bannock’, a large round rock which looks like a huge cake.



Figure 5.16: Metaphorical Naming: Bonnach Fhionnlaigh

Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh, 'sword skerry', is a frequently used name for little islands that, with one pointed side, appear to cut the sea like a sword. The *Sleeping Indian* designates the silhouette of a mountain ridge on Fuiay, which resembles the torso of a Native American lying on his back and is a fairly recent name creation.

5.1.5 Subjective

Sgeir Onorach, 'honest, distinguished skerry', and *Sloc Granda*, the 'grim gully', serve as examples of this class, although nothing is known about the namers or the reasons for their choice.

5.1.6 Negative or Ironic

Negative names are rare in Barra. *Sgeir Mollachdag*, the 'cursed skerry', is a dangerous group of rocks located at the north side of Greian Head. *Rubha Ghralish*, possibly meaning 'hostile headland', lies at the south side of Berneray. There is *Stupid Street*, which has already been mentioned, a more humorous than ironic name as it was assigned to the location by its own inhabitants.

5.1.7 Hortatory

A hortatory name designates a location where a particular act should be performed. *Snuasimul*, the ‘rock of the turning’, is a skerry which needs to be circumnavigated by boats wanting to pass the eastern shore of Vatersay.

5.2 Associative Names

A place may be named after associations which only that place has, and which distinguish it from other places carrying the same generic in that area. The class of associative names may be divided into six sub-categories:

Animals

<i>Sgeir nan Caorach</i>	‘sheep skerry’
<i>Sloc an Éisg</i>	‘fish gully’
<i>Creag na h-Iolaire</i>	‘rock of the eagle’

The animals included in this group are those that one would normally expect in this particular location. They point at husbandry, fishing and general observations of nature and should not be confused with names which refer to animals in unusual locations, which hint at accidents or loss.

Plants

<i>Port an t-Sealastair</i>	‘harbour of the iris’
<i>Cuidhe Roinich</i>	‘fern enclosure’
<i>Àird a’ Mhurain</i>	‘promontory of the bent-grass’

As Barra’s appearance is dominated by rocks, any kind of vegetation is happily commented on in place-names.

User group

<i>Airigh nan Treothasach</i>	‘shielling of the East coast people’
<i>Eilean an t-Seannsair</i>	‘Chanter’s island’
<i>Sloc Pheadair</i>	‘Peter’s gully’

Names occurring in this category refer to people who are associated with a place because they frequently make use of its facilities. *Eilean an t-Seannsair*, for example, is the place where a man nicknamed 'Chanter' used to tie up his boat. Special care should be taken in order not to mistake mere association for ownership.

Use

<i>Glac a' Bhainne</i>	'hollow of the milk'
<i>Sloc na Mòna</i>	'peat gully'
<i>Goirtean Eòrna</i>	'barley field'

The above names refer to activities performed at the specific location, such as milking the cows in *Glac a' Bhainne*, loading peat into boats at *Sloc na Mòna*, and cultivating barley at *Goirtean Eòrna*.



Figure 5.17: Abhainn a' Mhuilinn

Inclusion of Place

<i>Druim na Crìche</i>	‘ridge of the boundary’
<i>Bàgh a’ Chnuic Mhóir</i>	‘bay of the large hill’
<i>Gob Chiall</i>	‘point of Ciall’

The association of a place with another one lying close-by is a popular naming pattern. If used frequently in combination with one particular specific it can result in name clusters, which form a separate category in the shift-name classification.

Buildings

<i>Leac an Dùin Bhriste</i>	‘flagstone of the broken fort’
<i>Bogha Taigh Eòin</i>	‘reef of Jonathan’s house’

Names associated with buildings are rare. Reefs are occasionally named after houses which happen to serve as reference points.

5.3 Incident-names

Incident names are usually connected with a humourous or dubious story intended to increase the credibility of the place-name. Names in this group are closely related to associative names and commemorative names and form about 5% of Barra’s place-names.

In the case of *Oitir na Cailliche*, ‘sand-bank of the old woman’, legend has it that an old woman who lived on Fuiay was without fire. In order to light her stove she had to walk across the beach to Fuday to her nearest neighbour. She managed across and obtained fire but on her way back was caught by the incoming tide and drowned.

The name *Sloc an Amadain*, ‘gully of the fool’, in Bruernish is associated with the following anecdote:

“At the time of the clearances when they were chasing people out of that area there was a fellow that went into hiding in between these rocks. And he was a simpleton so to speak. But one wonders whether he was a simpleton, really, because he was the only one who got away. And that’s why it is called *Sloc an Amadain*.”¹³⁶

¹³⁶The story was told by Neil MacNeil (Neil Handie) of Bruernish.

Taigh a' Bhòcain, the 'ghost house', in Earsary was built very close to the shore. It is said that at night mysterious lights used to be seen, representing the souls of the two sailors on whose graves this house was located.¹³⁷

The most well known incident name on Barra is *Leac nan Leannan*, the 'flag stone of the lovers', on the Cleat coastline. Here two underaged lovers are said to have escaped their followers on horseback. Approaching the rocks at the cliff, the horse slipped and the lovers and the horse died.¹³⁸

Incident names also include names whose specific would not normally be associated with a particular location such as *Sloc na Goibhre*, the 'gully of the goat', probably suggesting an accident during which a goat fell into the sea. This group of names also includes incidents of supernatural nature such as *Loch an Eich Uisge*, the 'lake of the kelpie', which is located in the neighbourhood of *Àirigh na h-Aon Oidhche*, 'shieling of the one night'. This place was said to be haunted so that no one dared to stay longer than one night. In Scottish folktales kelpie lakes and haunted shielings are often situated close to each other.

Names of boats which grounded without sinking were important enough to find their way into place-names. Examples of this group are: *Bogha na St. Margaret*, 'reef of the *St. Margaret*', *Bogha na Scadaun*, 'reef of the *Scadaun*', and *Rubha na Lydia*, 'promontory of the *Lydia*'.

5.4 Possessive Names

Although many Barra place-names contain personal names as specifics, only a limited number of them qualify as real possessive names. In this study, ownership has been expanded to tenancy and includes deserted houses, ruins, other structures on the croft, the croft itself and curing stations which also used to be leased. Curing stations were predominantly located along the coastline of Castle Bay. Their names are usually composed of the generic 'station' and the name of the leaseholder or the lease holding company, resulting in names such as *Stéisean MacIvor*, *Stéisean Sinclair & Buchan*, and the more abstract *Stéisean WS & S*.

Names of houses are only listed if the property has been vacated permanently and as such falls into the category of a ruin. These names usually consist of the G generic *taigh* 'house', *tobhta* 'ruin', or *bothag* 'hut', followed by either the christian name or the nickname of the owner. Less often an abstract name such as G *bodach*, 'old man', or the owner's surname are used.

¹³⁷The house was removed after storm damage in 1998/99.

¹³⁸This story is told in varying versions.

<i>Taigh Lachlainn</i>	<i>Tobhta Roddy Mhicheil</i>	<i>Bothag Ruairidh Iain</i>
<i>Taigh Cacelti</i>	<i>Tobhta Bhuller</i>	<i>Dàm Phònags</i>
<i>Taigh a' Bhodaich</i>	<i>Tobht' a' Ghreusaiche</i>	<i>Cuaraidh nan Sàileach</i>

Other permanent or semi-permanent constructions such as mills, enclosures, pens, and fenced fields have been included in this group if their specific is a personal name. Only 69 place-names collected in the Barra group fall into the group of possessive names.

5.5 Commemorative Names

Commemorative names are given in order to honour a person or to help memorise a special event. The naming process involved is a conscious one.

Despite the fact that a large amount of place-names in Barra contain personal names, names formed in order to commemorate people are relatively few in number. The place-name *Càrn na h-Ighne*, 'cairn of the girl', is a reminder of the death in the hills of a little girl to whose memory a cairn was raised. The same naming pattern may be observed in *Càrn a' Ghille*, 'cairn of the boy', in Allasdale, where a small boy walked away from home into the hills while rescue teams searched for him at the shore. Later he was found dead on this very rock.

It is apparent that while the incidents are remembered, the names of the people involved are no longer known. They are simply remembered in abstract form as 'the boy' and 'the girl'.

Name transfer is another reflective naming process which produces commemorative names.¹³⁹ The most outstanding example is the name *Hecla*, 'high mountain', which designates a high mountain in Iceland. It is reused in Mingulay where it is assigned to the third highest hill. There are more names which have counterparts in Norway, but they often coincide with the actual physical shape of the place they describe so that they have to be classified as descriptive rather than commemorative names.

Place-names including saints' names and other general terms such as 'trinity' or 'friendship' may be found in Barra, too, though only on a small scale. There is the ancient site of a chapel in Vatersay known as *Cille Bhrianain*, 'St. Brendan's cell', with the parallel name *Cill' Anndrais*, 'St. Andrew's cell'. In North Barra we find *Cille Bharra*, which is assigned to St. Barr.

¹³⁹See subsection 2.5.3.



Figure 5.18: Disused burial ground at Borge Point

Names of ship-wrecks also classify as commemorative names. Shipping accidents remain of major interest to the islanders and the sites are well remembered.

This is not only due to the fact that ship-wrecks meant driftwood and in some cases salvage of the cargo. There were seafarers in most families and people could relate to the horror and distress a disaster at sea could bring to the community, as was the case with the sinking of the *Annie Jane* in 1853 when about 350 passengers and crew drowned. Although in some cases the wreck was removed or disappeared altogether, the name of the ship without any additional generics remained the name for the site. There are the sites of the *Empire Homer*, *Baron Ardrossan* and *Maple Branch* at the south side of Sandray. The *Ben Bheula* was an Aberdeen boat which got into distress off Vatersay and was saved by the *Cyelse*, only for the *Cyelse* then to sink.¹⁴⁰ In northwestern waters there are the sites of the *Brigade*, the *Degens* and the *Gurse* at the eastern shore, and the *Samuel Dexter* west of Scurrial.

5.6 Commendatory Names

Names which fall into this group are consciously given in order to create a positive effect on an area which may be renowned for its dangerous or hostile features.

¹⁴⁰I am grateful to Michael MacKinnon of Caolas in Vatersay for providing this information.



Figure 5.19: Jonathan MacNeil, Ardveenish, with part of the *Gurse*



Figure 5.20: Michael MacKinnon, Scurrival, with an ashtray from the *Samuel Dexter*

Within this group of names the intention of the namer may be driven by superstition or simply to express hopes and desires.

In Barra the number of names which fall into this group is very small. A dangerous sunken rock in the Leanish area carries the name *Am Bogha Còir*, ‘the friendly reef’. The exposed west coast of Sandray offers *An Camus Gasd*, ‘the beautiful bay’, and *A’ Chùil Ghasd*, ‘the beautiful corner’, hardly more sheltered than *An Camus Gasd*. With the name *Tobar na Slàinte*, ‘well of good health’, it is difficult to establish whether the water of the well did have healing qualities, or whether the namer tried to make his fellow islanders believe that it had.

5.7 Folk-etymologies

Folk-etymologies are discussed in section 2.6.5.4.

5.8 Manufactured Names

Blend-names, abbreviations of names, names formed from visual symbols or from company names are entirely lacking on Barra. On the contrary, the largest employer on the island, the fish company *Barratlantic*, composed its name by combining two place-names.

5.9 Mistake-names

Historical records are the best source for tracing mistake-names. These names occur accidentally as a result of misconception of meaning, mainly in areas of language contact. They coincide with the unsuccessful attempt to press a name into a recognised standard of spelling.

The situation of language contact in Barra was discussed in section 1.3. Except, possibly, for MacLean in 1823, none of the cartographers of the Barra group were native Gaelic speakers, so plenty of mistakes would have to be expected. However, considering the amount of data handled during the collection this is not the case. The Gaelic and Old Norse names must have appeared so alien to their ears, that the cartographers attempted only to note them as closely as possible to the Gaelic pronunciation without trying to interpret them. Some place-names were

translated into English and back into Gaelic¹⁴¹ in both OS maps and Admiralty charts, but again, relatively few mistakes occurred.

One mistake which may certainly be put down to an error in copying or interpretation was made in connection with a microtoponymic in the northwestern part of Barra. A meadow which MacLean identified as *Liananashesgan*, ‘small meadow of the reeds’,¹⁴² nowadays appears on OS maps as *Leana na h-Eisgin*, ‘small meadow of the eel’.¹⁴³

5.10 Shift-names

This group of names was introduced in section 2.5.1. Name transfer of the specific only, resulting in a name cluster, may be observed in a few places on Barra. Examples are:

<i>Abhainn Dhrolum</i>	<i>Bogha Holisgeir</i>	<i>Bay Sletta</i>
<i>Cnoc Mór Dhrolum</i>	<i>Caolas Holisgeir</i>	<i>Leac Slétta</i>
<i>Geata Dhrolum</i>	<i>Carraig Holisgeir</i>	<i>Rubha Slétta</i>
<i>Gob Dhrolum</i>	<i>Làimhrig Holisgeir</i>	<i>Sloc Slétta</i>
<i>Tràigh Bheag Dhrolum</i>	<i>Rubha Holisgeir</i>	<i>Beinn Slétta</i>

In all cases of name clustering the repeated element is an already existing name. In 80% of the collected names this existing name is still actively used. Stewart’s theory that shift-naming flourished with names of unknown meaning¹⁴⁴ has to be modified for the names in the Barra group. One third of the elements used as specifics in name shifting were of known meaning to most locals. However, name clusters are not a dominant characteristic of the nomenclature of Barra. Making generalisations is risky and may be misleading if, as in this case, the amount of examples involved is relatively small.

5.11 Naming Intention: Summary

Analysis of naming intention shows that association is the strongest naming motivation within Barra’s place-names, with more than 45% of all names falling

¹⁴¹This was likely to be influenced by company politics in the mapping agencies.

¹⁴²This historical form is listed in the gazetteer under its current name *Leana na h-Eisgin*.

¹⁴³This mistake was brought to my attention by Màiri Liz and Ken MacKinnon of Bolnabodach.

¹⁴⁴See G. R. Stewart, 1975:158.

into this category. It is followed by the group of descriptive names, which also includes simplex names. Within the group of descriptive names the strongest naming intention was the use of senses with almost 20%, mainly focussing on colour and size. The association of relative location applied to 4.5% of names, and metaphorical use to 2%. Naming intention motivated by any of the other sub-categories of descriptive names, such as specialist knowledge, subjective reasoning, negative/ironic or hortatory naming, produced only a few names. Incident names rank at 5.5% and possession is indicated in 3%. There are few examples for the remaining categories of commemorative names, commendatory names and folk-etymologies, only two obvious mistake-names and no manufactured names.

The naming intention apparent in the place-names of Barra may be characterised as traditional. The namers commented on what they saw, and they created further names by associating unnamed features with already named places in the area. A few names include compass directions to establish a relative location. It is not surprising in a community renowned for its story telling that one in twenty names is an incident name, usually connected with a story.

Despite the fact that many names contain personal-names, relatively few qualify as possessive. This may be a consequence of the communal nature of the clan system, based as it was on sharing possessions rather than individually accumulating them. However, it is striking that so few names contain saints' names, considering that the island has been a catholic stronghold for centuries.

Barra's place-names are versatile, but straightforward, without any trace of eccentricity on behalf of the namers.

6 Syntax

Only semantically transparent names can be considered in analysis of name structure. In the Barra group 92% of the collected names fall into this category. The remaining 8% of names of unknown or partly unknown meaning are not analysed. Note, however, that the percentage breakdown of the analysis is expressed relative to the total of all collected names, including those of unknown meaning.

The detailed classification system for G names as developed by Cox¹⁴⁵ has been modified to suit the needs of this analysis. A number of sub-categories relevant to G names have been combined into one without violating Cox's basic layout. Additionally, classes to match the structural needs of E and ON names have been established. In contrast to Cox's analysis, where ON names are treated as ex-nomine units, this study evaluates ON names in the same way as G names and splits them into their separate components. This change will have an influence when comparing the place-names of Barra with the place-names of Lewis. However, an attempt has been made to adhere as closely as possible to Cox's layout to allow for comparison of Lewis and Barra place-names. There is a difference of terminology used by Cox and Nicolaisen. In Nicolaisen's approach¹⁴⁶ simple names consist merely of the generic. The addition of any specific to a simple name immediately transforms it into a compound name. Complex-names, formed from a free base with the aid of a suffix, do not, as far as Nicolaisen is concerned, occur in Lewis place-names.¹⁴⁷ Cox evaluates terms differently. He considers Watson's terminology,¹⁴⁸ with which Nicolaisen's structure roughly corresponds, inadequate and rearranges the material to form new groups. Nicolaisen's system is straightforward. However, in order to simplify comparison between Barra place-names and Lewis place-names, this thesis uses the system developed by Cox.

The following four main groups of names form the core of the syntax analysis.¹⁴⁹

1. Simple names (SN)
2. Complex-names (CN)
3. Complex-names including personal names (CNPn)
4. Names with prepositions (PrN)

The elements involved are abbreviated as follows: adj. (adjective), art. (article), n (noun), PN (personal name) and pc (participle construction).

¹⁴⁵See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:30ff.

¹⁴⁶See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1979-80:112.

¹⁴⁷See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1979-80:110.

¹⁴⁸See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:31.

¹⁴⁹See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:32.

6.1 Simple-names

The simple-name is either a simplex name or a simple noun phrase.¹⁵⁰ As the use of the definite article in front position is not compulsory in names of G origin, names with articles are treated the same as names without. Parentheses enclose elements which are optional. The mere combination of different elements is indicated by the sign x, whilst a closer link is indicated by the sign +. In the analysis, the following six sub-groups of simple-names have been identified:

Structure of Simple-Names

- SN1 (art. +) n
 SN2 (art. +) n + adj.
 SN3 (art. +) n + adj. + adj.
 SN4 (art. +) adj. + n
 (art. +) n + n
 SN5 (art. +) adj. + n + adj.
 (art. +) n + n + adj.
 SN6 pc + n

SN1: (art. +) n

<i>Mill</i>	<i>Làimhrig</i> 'landing-place'	<i>Uidh</i> 'ford'
<i>Pier</i>	<i>Dùn</i> 'fortification'	<i>Colla</i> 'mound'
<i>Manse</i>	<i>Slugaide</i> 'gorge'	<i>Cuier</i> 'enclosure'
<i>The Glebe</i>	<i>Am Meall</i> 'the hill'	<i>The Stoung</i> 'the mast'
<i>The Banks</i>	<i>Na Gleannain</i> 'the valleys'	<i>The Hoe</i> 'the eminence'
<i>The Lagoon</i>	<i>Na Tobhtaichean</i> 'the ruins'	

¹⁵⁰See. R. A. V. Cox, 1987:33.

SN2: (art. +) n + adj.

Dùn Briste 'broken fort' *A' Bheinn Mhór* 'the big mountain'
Garrygall 'white dyke' *A' Phàirc Àrd* 'the high enclosure'
Taobhan Beag 'small side' *An Leac Uaine* 'the green flagstone'

SN3: (art. +) n + adj. + adj.

Sgeir Fiaclach Mór 'large toothed skerry'
Sgeir Liath a Tuath 'northern grey-blue skerry'
Bogha Ruadh a-muigh 'outer red reef'

SN4: (art. +) adj. + n, (art. +) n + n

(art. +) n + n

Castle Bay *Ceann Sglèat* 'slate point' *Greòtal* 'gravel mound'
Statue Island *Fraoch Eilean* 'heather island'
Mud Rock *Goirtean Eòrna* 'barley field'

(art. +) adj. + n

Old Hospital *Fionnphort* 'white port' *Bretadale* 'steep valley'
Black Islands *Cora-Bheinn* 'pointed hill' *Heaval* 'high hill'

SN5: (art. +) adj. + n + adj.

Sunais Mhór 'big southern headland'
Sunais Bheag 'small southern headland'
Inner Oitir Mhór 'inner large bank'

SN6: pc + n

Sleeping Indian
Standing Stones

Three sub-categories dominate in the group of simple-names. The largest group with 16% of all names is SN2, which combines nouns and adjectives. The second

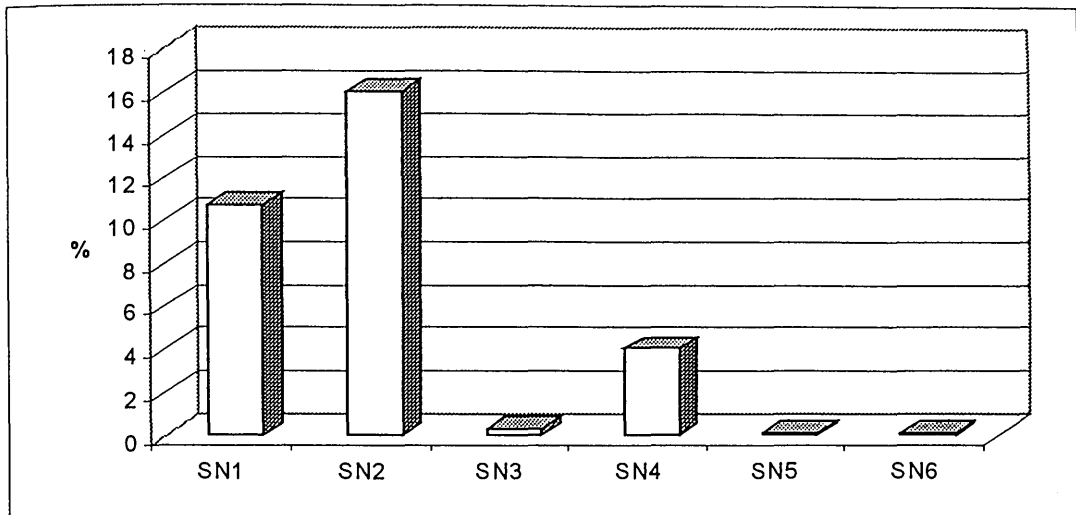


Figure 6.21: Distribution of Simple-Names

largest group is SN1, simplex-names, at 11%. SN4 represents the combination of adjective and noun, and forms a significant part of the corpus with 4%. This group consists mainly of names of English origin. In its constellation of elements SN4 is an inversion of SN2.

Groups SN3 and SN5 have more complicated structures and for that reason are likely to have been composed considerably less often. Finally, the combination of a participle construction and a noun, as categorised by group SN6, is a fairly young construction pattern. The combination of the entries in S3, S5 and S6 accounts for less than 1% of all collected names.

6.2 Complex-names

The class of complex-names (CN) is divided into three main groups: primary complex-names, secondary complex-names and tertiary complex-names, consisting of two, three and four simpleces respectively.¹⁵¹ The main difference between simple-names and complex-names is the genitival relationship of the nouns in the complex class.

¹⁵¹See. R. A. V. Cox, 1987:40.

6.2.1 Primary Complex-names

Primary complex-names (CN1) occur in several varieties and may include articles and adjectives. The most common combinations are listed below:¹⁵²

Structure of Primary Complex-Names

- CN1a n x n
- CN1b n x art. + n
- CN1c n x adj. + n
- CN1d n + adj. x art. + n
- CN1e adj. + n x n
- CN1f n x art. + n + adj.

Examples of the various classes of primary complex-names are:

CN1a: n x n

- Tresivick* 'bay of the current'
- Ùlabrac* 'slope of the wolf'
- Craigston* 'settlement of the stone'

CN1b: n x art. + n

- Sloc a' Mhaide* 'gully of the driftwood'
- Carraig na Cille* 'fishing-rock of the church'
- Sgùmban nan Eun* 'summit of the birds'

CN1c: n x adj. + n

- Abhainn Bhréibhig* 'river of the broad bay'
- Ben Vaslain* 'mountain of the wet land'
- Dùn Mingulay* 'fortification of the (?) big island'

CN1d: n + adj. x art. + n

- Sgeir Bheag na h-Àirde* 'small skerry of the promontory'
- Sloc Beag nan Calman* 'little gully of the pigeons'

¹⁵²See. R. A. V. Cox, 1987:41.

CN1e: adj. + n x n

Old Woman's Rock

CN1f: n x (art.) + n + adj.

Bealach na Beinne Bige 'pass of the small mountain'

Bogh' a' Chaolais Bhàin 'sunken rock of the white sound'

6.2.2 Secondary Complex-names

CN2: n + n + (art.) + n

Secondary complex-names are less common than primary complex-names. They form 7% of all collected place-names.

Pàirc Beul a' Chaolais 'enclosure of the opening of the sound'

Sruth Bealach a' Phuinn 'stream of the pass of the sheep dip'

Bight Caolas na h-Adhairc 'little bay of the sound of the horn'

Bogha Àrnamul 'sunken reef of the rock of eagles'

Cladach Sgiobasdail 'shore of the valley of ships'

Creag Risebik 'rock of the brushwood bay'

Kisimul Castle 'castle of the rock of the small bay'

Greian Head Cottage 'cottage of the point of the sunny spot'

6.2.3 Tertiary Complex-names

CN3: n + n + n (+ art.) + n

Clach Ceum Suidhe na Mòna 'stone of the path of the peat seat'

Carraig Caolas Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh 'fishing rock of the sound of the sword skerry'

Sloc Rubh' Àird nan Capall 'gully of the promontory of the hill of the mares'

The analysis of complex-names shows that primary complex-names are most common in this group, accounting for nearly 39% of the total nomenclature of Barra. Within the primary complex-names, the combination of n x art. + n occurs most frequently. Secondary complex-names account for 7% of collected names, and tertiary names for almost 1%.

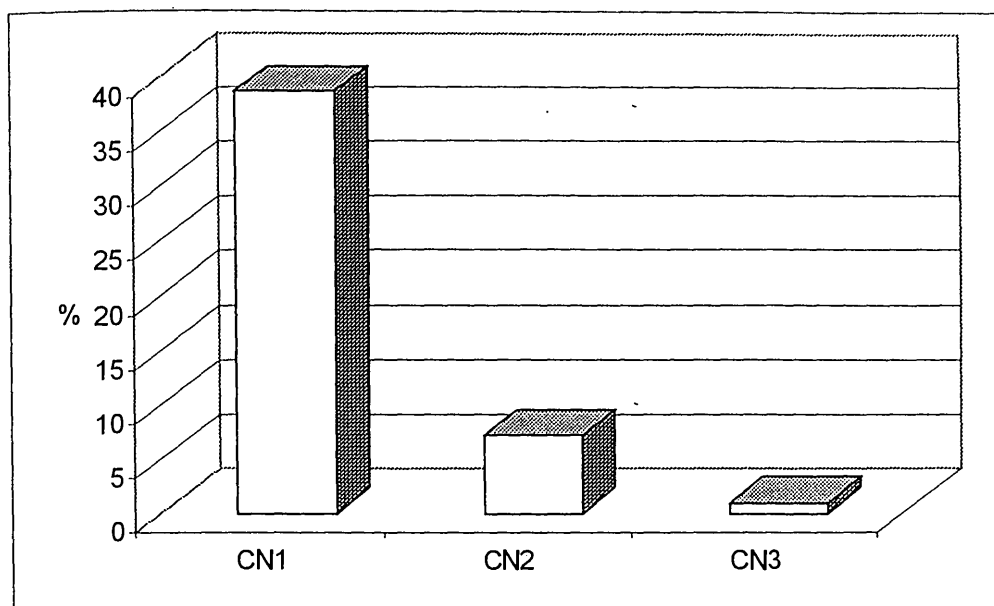


Figure 6.22: Distribution of Complex-Names

It is not surprising that the more sophisticated multi-noun constructions of CN3 and CN2 occur less frequently than the simpler structures of CN1. CN3 feeds on CN2, which in turn feeds on CN1. Moreover, secondary and, in particular, tertiary complex-names require of the namer a detailed knowledge of the incorporated features. In accordance with COX's observations in Lewis, the maximum number of combined simplexes in any place-name in the Barra group did not exceed four.¹⁵²

6.3 Complex-names Containing Personal Names

Because they are so numerous, a separate class is created to describe place-names containing personal names. The term personal name (PN) includes christian names, nicknames, patronymics, surnames and names indicating profession. This study uses COX's seven main groups (CNPN1–CNPN7)¹⁵³, and adds three further groups to allow classification according to the position of the personal name within the place-name. The three additional groups are designated CNPN8–CNPN10.

¹⁵²I. A. Fraser knows of complex-names in Lewis in which five simplexes are combined.

¹⁵³R. A. V. Cox, 1987:51ff.

Structure of Complex-Names containing Personal Names

CNPN1	n x PN
CNPN2	n x PN + adj.
CNPN3	n x n x PN
CNPN4	n x n x PN + adj.
CNPN5	n x n x n x PN
CNPN6	n + adj. x PN
CNPN7	n + adj. x n x PN
CNPN8	n x PN x n
CNPN9	n + adj. x PN x n
CNPN10	PN x n

CNPN1: n x PN

In this group, place-names containing a personal name, i.e. christian name, patronymic, surname, nickname or a profession-name, are combined with a noun.

n x christian name

<i>Taigh Lachlainn</i>	'Lachlan's house'
<i>Tobht' Ailein</i>	'Allan's ruin'
<i>Sgeir Choinnich</i>	'Kenneth's skerry'

n x patronymic/ surname

<i>Tobhta Bean Dhòmhnail</i>	'ruin of Donald's wife'
<i>Uamh 'icPhearsain</i>	'MacPherson's cave'
<i>Stéisean Pierre</i>	'Pierre's curing station'

n + nickname

<i>Taigh Cacelti</i>	'Cacelti's house'
<i>Eilean an t-Seannsair</i>	'Chanter's island'
<i>Tobar Shandaidh Apel</i>	'Sandy Apbell's well'

n + profession name

<i>Bogach an Tàilleir</i>	'the tailor's swamp'
<i>Tobht' a' Ghreusaiche</i>	'the cobbler's ruin'
<i>Bishop's Isles</i>	

CNPN2: $n \times \text{PN} + \text{adj.}$

Creag 'icCeallaig Àrd 'MacKellaig's high rock'

CNPN3: $n \times n \times \text{PN}$

Caolas Eilein Sheumais 'sound of James's island'

Bàgh Rubha Pheadair 'bay of Peter's promontory'

Cnoc Àirigh Eòin 'hill of Jonathan's shieling'

CNPN4: $n \times n \times \text{PN} + \text{adj.}$

CNPN5: $n \times n \times n \times \text{PN}$

None of the collected place-names matched sub-classes CNPN4 or CNPN5.

CNPN6: $n + \text{adj.} \times \text{PN}$

Carraig Bheag Rob 'Rob's small fishing-rock'

Clach Mhór Fhionnlaigh 'Finlay's big stone'

Cotan Mór Néill Eòin 'fold of Marian (daughter of) Neil (son of) Jonathan'

CNPN7: $n + \text{adj.} \times n \times \text{PN}$

Port Beag Glaic Choinnich 'little port of Kenneth's hollow'

CNPN8: $n \times \text{PN} \times n$

Beinn Ghunnairigh 'mountain of Gunnar's shieling'

CNPN9: $n + \text{adj.} \times \text{PN} \times n$

Ben Bheg Eoligarra 'small mountain of Qlvir's (?) enclosure'

CNPN10: $\text{PN} \times n$

Earsary 'Eric's shieling'

Rossraig 'cliff of Ross'

With 14% of the total nomenclature, complex-names containing personal names

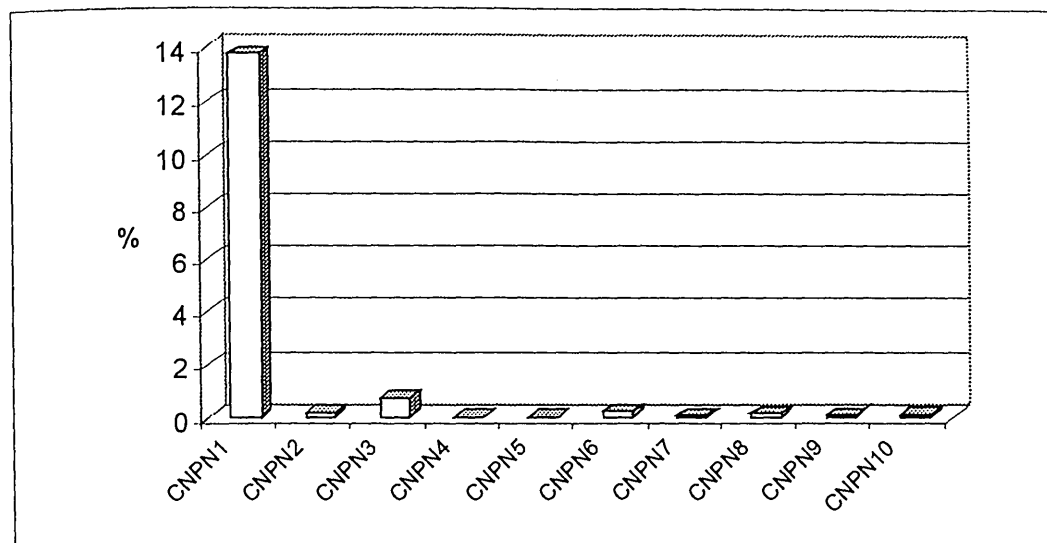


Figure 6.23: Distribution of Complex-Names containing Personal-Names

form a sizeable group. The overwhelming majority of these place-names fall into sub-category CNPN1, the remaining sub-categories combining to account for little more than 1% of the total nomenclature.

6.4 Names with Prepositions

There are few place-names including prepositions. As emphasized by COX, they represent an old stratum of names.¹⁵⁴

Only four place-names including a preposition were identified in the Barra group:

<i>Taigh fo Thalamh</i>	'house under the ground' (twice)
<i>Carasdan bho Thuath</i>	'reed + ? + of the north'
<i>Eadar an Dà Bheinn</i>	'between the two hills'

6.5 Summary

The largest name-type group on Barra is that of complex-names (47%). A further 14% of the total nomenclature is accounted for by the group of complex-names containing personal names. Simple-names make up 30% of the nomenclature of Barra. The low count of names including prepositions is not surprising as they

¹⁵⁴R. A. V. Cox, 1987:56.

are rare in Scottish toponymy. The remaining names (8%) contain elements of unknown origin, and for that reason are classed as unresolved.

The only other area in the Western Isles whose place-names syntax has been analysed in detail, is the area covered by the Carloway Registry (CR) in Lewis¹⁵⁵. Comparison of the structure of Barra and Lewis place-names¹⁵⁶ shows the following results:

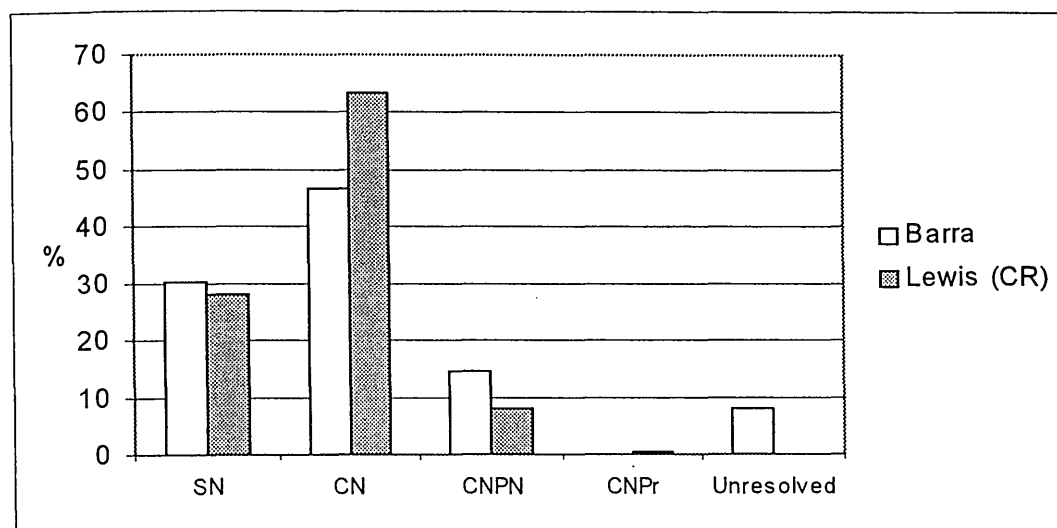


Figure 6.24: Comparison: Structure of Place-Names in Barra and Lewis (CR)

In both Lewis and Barra simple-names cover just less than one third of the total nomenclature. Place-names containing prepositions do exist in both areas but they are few in number. Secondary complex-names account for similar proportions of the place-names, as do tertiary complex-names.

A striking difference lies in the distribution of primary complex-names. The proportion of primary complex-names is considerably higher in Lewis (55%) than it is in Barra (almost 39%).

A different picture emerges in the group of complex-names containing personal names. These account for 14% of Barra names, but only 8% of Lewis names. Detailed information on place-names including personal names, covering features

¹⁵⁵See. R. A. V. Cox: 1987.

¹⁵⁶The material provided by R. A. V. Cox is restricted to the Carloway Registry at the west side of Lewis.

such as ruins and landing-places on Barra, was provided by only a few informants. Others disregarded these creations as too recent and therefore not eligible. Had it not been for these few individuals, who have taken a special interest in the place and in the people whose names are reflected in the place-names, the picture may have resembled more closely that of Lewis.

To sum up, most of Barra's place-names are primary complex-names or simple-names. There are more complex constructions, but these are few in number. There is a relatively high count of place-names containing personal names, reflecting the people's personal involvement in the place.

7 The Interaction of Languages

This chapter examines the degree of language contact in the nomenclature of Barra. The place-names of Barra may be divided into five categories:¹⁵⁸

- Pure Norse names
- Pure Gaelic names
- Names Gaelic in structure but containing elements of mixed origin
- English names
- Opaque names

A look at a map of Barra conveys the impression that most place-names are of ON origin. The names of all of the major islands around Barra contain ON elements and so does the majority of other place-names. The three highest mountains of the archipelago, *Heaval*, *Hartaval* and *Hecla*, retain a purely Norse character.

To find pure Gaelic names on the 1:25 000 OS map is a more difficult task, as most names appear to contain at least one element originating from either ON or from English. The settlement names *Caolis*, *Balnabodach*, *Ardmhór* and *Kinloch* are purely Gaelic, as are the names of some beaches and inlets, such as *Tràigh Mhór*, *Bàgh Beag* and *Sloc a' Chìreìn*. A closer look at the interior reveals further pure Gaelic names. A number of fresh-water features, such as *Allt nam Bodach*, *Loch na Cuilce*, *Loch Uisge*, *Abhainn a' Ghlinne* and *Loch an Dùin*, are unmistakably Gaelic. The same applies to names of several mountain passes and many smaller features, like points, hillocks and cavities, which have rarely before been mapped.

Place-names containing elements of mixed origin are plentiful in Barra. These include hills of second magnitude such as *Ben Scurrival*, *Ben Eoligarry*, *Ben Erival*, *Heishival Mór*, *Cairn Galtar* and *The Hoe*, and also straits like *Sound of Berneray*, *Sound of Mingulay*, *Sound of Pabbay* and larger bays. Points for nautical orientation, too, carry names of mixed origin. Examples of this group are *Barra Head*, *Doirlinn Head*, *Borve Point*, *Bruernish Point* and *Scurrival Point*.

English, too, has found its way into the place-names of Barra, not only on maps but also in everyday language. The two economic centres, *Castlebay* and *Northbay*, carry English names based on the names of the large natural harbours by which they are located.

¹⁵⁸See M. Oftedal, 1955:110f.

The remaining group of names, those whose meaning is partially or entirely opaque, forms 8% of Barra's nomenclature. Despite their uncertainty of meaning, these names have been included in the gazetteer as long as their location could be traced to a reasonable degree of certainty. However, there are further place-names, whose spelling, meaning and location¹⁵⁹ remain uncertain. These names have not been included in the corpus, but are listed together with all available information in appendix B.

7.1 Language Contact

One way to assess the influence of the various languages involved, is to examine their frequency of occurrence within the geographic classes as introduced in the OS classification system.¹⁶⁰ To achieve a clearer picture the OS system has been expanded to include terms related to islands, bays, beaches, freshwater features, relief terms (with an independent group for promontories), husbandry (including agriculture and fisheries), settlements and man-made constructions, and vegetation.

7.1.1 Rocks and Reefs

The most popular term for submerged rocks is *bogha*, the G form of ON *boði*. In the Barra Isles alone there are more than 70 place-names in which *bogha* acts as generic. It occurs in combination with the names of ships which have struck them, as in *Bogha Chavalier*, 'reef of the *'Cavalier'*', *Bogha na St. Margaret*, 'reef of the *'St. Margaret'*', and *Bogha na h-Enterprise*, 'reef of the *'Enterprise'*'. In other cases, sunken rocks are named after their orientation marks on land, as in *Bogh' an Taigh Ghil*, 'reef of the white house', and in *Bogha Taigh Eòin*, 'reef of Jonathan's house', and often they are just called after their colour. *An Rochd Mhór*, 'the big fold', contains the ON word *hrukka*, 'fold' or 'wrinkle', which designates a 'large, sunken, tangle-grown rock'. In Barra this term occurs only once and covers a large area west of Muldoanich. The Eng. word *shoal*, 'shallow', as in *Beatson's Shoal*,¹⁶¹ also occurs only once. On AD charts, approximately half of the names of sunken rocks have been translated into English, as in *Bull's Rock*,¹⁶² *Bonnet Rock* and *Old Woman's Rock*.

¹⁵⁹Uncertainty in location means failing to reach certainty level 3 (reliable to within a radius of 1 km) as defined in the SPND.

¹⁶⁰See section 4.1.7.

¹⁶¹In this AD form the apostrophe indicating the possessive has been omitted.

¹⁶²See in the gazetteer under *Bogh' an Tairbh*.

7.1.2 Islands

Sea-terminology accommodates generics such as ON *øy*, 'island', which is usually modified to *-ay*, and is part of the names of all of the major islands of the Barra group. ON *holmr*, usually modified to the form *-um* or *-lum*, is the term for a 'medium-sized island' which is large enough to provide grazing for a few animals, as emphasised by names like *Lamalum*, 'island of the lambs', and *Solon Beag* and *Solon Mór*, 'small sheep island' and 'large sheep island' respectively. The ON word *múli*, 'headland', is also used in Barra as a term for 'sea rocks', which vary not only in height but also in size. *Arnamul*, 'eagle rock', is the largest, even bigger than some *holmr*-islands and certainly the highest, measuring 121 m above sea-level. *Lianamul*, composed of an obscure element and *múli*, and *Greanamul*, 'green rock', are substantial lower-lying rocks. At the bottom end of the scale there is *Leigemul* just off Ledaig, and the most famous rock containing the element *múli*, *Kisimul*, 'rock of the small bay', which is just large enough to accommodate the castle. *Kisimul* has a parallel name in *A' Steinn* from ON *steinn*, 'prominent little island', an element also found in other parts of the Western Isles and very popular in Norway.

A place-name element which describes features of a less variable size than does *múli*, is ON *sker*, borrowed into G in the form of *sgeir*. It is used for rocks or small islands which usually do not support cattle or sheep and in many cases are void of vegetation. *Sgeir* is a flexible loanword which occurs in combination with either G or ON specifics in either ON or G word order. Occasionally it is used in its anglicised form 'skerry'. Examples of inverted word order include *Glasssgeir*, 'grey-green skerry', and *Dubhsgeir*, 'dark skerry', a variation of the OS entry *Sgeir Dubh*. There are ON forms as in *Holissgeir*, which includes an obscure ON specific, but the most frequent creations contain G elements and the traditional G order of composition as in *Sgeirean Màs a' Mhill*, 'skerries at the back of the hill', *Sgeir Sheòrais*, 'George's skerry', and *Sgeir Dallaig*, 'skerry of the dog-fish'. *Sgeir* is a wide-spread generic in Barra's nomenclature.

The most restricted term for an island is G *laogh* meaning 'calf' or 'friend'. Islands called *An Laogh* are very small in size and always located immediately beside a very large island. In Barra there are only two islands with this name, one north of Muldoanich, and the other one north of Gighay.

7.1.3 Bays

This group includes all features related to salt-water, such as bays, inlets, channels and natural landing-places.

The most popular element is G *bàgh*, a loan from ON *vágr*, meaning ‘bay’. In the Western Isles it covers middle to good-sized features as in *Bàgh a’ Deas*, ‘south bay’, and *Bàgh Siar*, ‘west bay’. As stated previously, the most prominent bays, *Bàgh a’ Chaisteil*, ‘castle bay’, and *Bàgh a Tuath*, ‘north bay’, have parallel English forms.¹⁶³ Despite the widespread use of the G loanword version, the ON original words *vík* and *vágr* have not disappeared from the nomenclature of the islands. ON *vík*, usually modified to *-aig* or *-vick*, covers large to medium-sized round bays as in *Brevig*, ‘broad bay’, and *Tresivick*, ‘bay of the current’, while ON *vágr* is productive in *Bàgh Huilavagh*, ‘hill bay’, and *Bàgh Hirivagh*, ‘dry bay’. In contrast to the open, round shape of *vík*-features, ON *vágr* is applied to longer and narrower inlets.

The ON element *hópr* is used for sheltered bays with narrow access. In Barra there are two features that match the geographic requirements, but only *Loch Obe*¹⁶⁴ contains a form of *hópr*.

G *poll*, a loan from ON *pollr*, describes a ‘little bay’, almost a ‘pool’, and is part of place-names like *Poll Lingeigh*, ‘pool of the heather island’, *Poll an t-Sìl*, ‘pool of the sprat/seed’, and *Poll an Dùdain*, ‘pool of the fine-powdered seaweed’. The generic *poll* is part of six place-names.

Other elements describing some sort of bay, but occurring with very low frequency, are G *camus* as in *An Camus Gasd*, ‘the beautiful bay’, and G *cearcall*, a loan from Lat. *circulum* and related to Eng. *circle*.¹⁶⁵ *An Cearcall* at the west side of Pabbay is a round, small bay in whose exact centre there is a rock. The Eng. name *The Lagoon* describes a shallow, sheltered bay between Hellisay and Gighay. Although *The Lagoon* includes various small inlets for which there are ON or G names, there is no other competing place-name for the entire bay. Another one-off name is *Na Cìreanan*, ‘the cock’s combs’, a set of narrow inlets which, taken as a whole, resemble the shape of a cock’s comb.

ON *gjá*, modified to *-geo* or borrowed into G *geodha*, and G *sloc* cater for exactly the same kind of location, a ‘gully’, which is a long, narrow ravine and is a feature typical of the west coast of Barra and the southern satellites. With exception of a few place-names in Allan McDonald’s document of non-Gaelic place-names in Mingulay,¹⁶⁶ the ON element no longer appears as a generic without being

¹⁶³In accordance with the guidelines of the SPND these names are listed under the mapped forms which happen to be English and not Gaelic. Reference to their Gaelic parallels is made in section 4.1.8.

¹⁶⁴This form represents the OS entry. Locals refer to this place as *Loch na h-Òb*.

¹⁶⁵This element is more commonly used with rock formations.

¹⁶⁶See A. McDonald, 1901–03 or see appendix B.



Figure 7.25: Castle Bay

supplemented by the tautological G *sloc*,¹⁶⁷ as in *Sloc Chiasigeo*, 'gully of the small bay', and *Sloc Cuigeo*, 'gully of the enclosure'. G forms include *Sloc na Bèiste*, 'gully of the beast', probably referring to a whale, *Sloc Granda*, 'dirty gully', and *Sloc an Eich*, 'gully of the horse'.¹⁶⁸

The Barra Isles consist of a maze of channels and waterways. The straits between the largest islands appear as Eng. *sound*, related to ON *sund*, on the OS maps and the AD charts as in *Sound of Barra*, *Sound of Hellisay* and *Sound of Mingulay*. In spoken Gaelic, the names of these straits are replaced by G *caolas*, which caters not only for large but also smaller features such as *Caolas Eilean nan Eun*,

¹⁶⁷See section on tautologies.

¹⁶⁸For further discussion of *sloc* and *gjà* see I. A. Fraser, 1978c:242.



Figure 7.26: The Lagoon between Hellisay and Gighay

'sound of the birds' island', and *Caolas Bogha na Lice*, 'sound of the skerry of the flagstone'.

G sruth is a narrow channel combining a sea-loch with the open sea, a feature which is often subject to strong tidal currents. Both *Loch Obe* and *Bàgh Beag* are connected to the sea by channels called *An Sruth*, which permit safe passage to boats at restricted times only.

Other than the Eng. loan *sound*, the only other ON term for a water-related passage is *rás*, as in *Snagaras*, 'sound of the headland'.

Terms for landing-places include *G seòlaid*, 'harbour' or 'pier', *G acarsaid*, a loan from ON *akkeris-sæti*, 'anchorage place', as in *Acarsaid Fhalaich*, 'secret landing-place', and the simplex form *An Acarsaid*, and the Eng. words *harbour* and *landing-place*. A frequently used generic is *G làimhrig*, a loan from ON *hladh-hamarr*, literally 'slope rock', which usually describes a site with steeply sloping rocks which permits direct boat access. *Làimhrig* does occur as a simplex name, but is more popular in combination with nearby features as in *Làimhrig Fhlodaigh*, 'Flodday landing-place', or compounded with the name of its most frequent user as in *Làimhrig Ailig Bhig*, 'Small Alec's landing-place'. Its main usage is emphasised in *Làimhrig nam Mart*, 'landing-place of the cows', or in *Làimhrig na Mòna*,



Figure 7.27: An Sruth, looking from Bolnabodach towards Bruernish

'landing-place of the peat'. The most frequent element used for landing-places is *G port*, a loan from Lat. *portus* and related to Eng. *port*. This element may be compounded with the name of its main user as in *Port Chal*,¹⁶⁹ 'Cal's port', with a name of a boat for which it provides shelter, with the names of nearby natural features, or with an adjective describing its colour or shape. In some areas where the geographic conditions provide both a sheltered deep landing-place and close location to settlements, as is the case in the *Bàgh Beag* area, place-names containing the generic *port* occurred particularly frequently, with up to five such names per 100 m².

¹⁶⁹ *Cal* is a nickname.

7.1.4 Shoreline

Both G and ON provide a rich terminology for coastal features such as sand-banks, beaches, and rocks at the shore.

The G shore terminology includes *oitir* as in *Oitir Mhór*, the ‘large sand-bank’, *G cladach*, usually used for a ‘rocky part of the shore’ as in *Cladach a’ Mhaoraich*, ‘shellfish coast’, and *Cladach Sgiobasdail*, ‘coast of Skipisdale’. *Carraig* is a very popular G term for ‘fishing-rocks’ and forms part of *A’ Charraig a-muigh*, ‘the outer fishing-rock’, and *A’ Charraig Ghainmheineach*, ‘the sandy fishing-rock’. *Carraig* is most often combined with the name of its most regular visitor. Some fishing-rocks are easy to identify because of the little, round holes in the rock in which bait used to be prepared. *Carraig* is part of 52 primary names, but the number of places that were actively used as fishing-rocks and received names is probably much higher.



Figure 7.28: Fishing-rock

G morghan, as in *Am Morghan*, describes a ‘shingly beach’. The general term for a beach is *G tràigh* as in *An Tràigh a Deas*, ‘the southern beach’, *Tràigh Mhór*, ‘big beach’, and *Tràigh a’ Bhàigh*, ‘beach of the bay’. G has borrowed additional words for beaches from ON. The *G mol* from ON *mgl*, ‘shingly beach’, is used more often than its G equivalent *morghan*. Examples in Barra include *A’ Mhol*, ‘the shingly

beach', *Mol Bheag Rubha Ghlas*, 'small shingly beach of the grey-green point', and *Mol nam Faochag*, 'shingly beach of the whelks'. Other loanwords include G *palla* from ON *pallr*, 'cliff' or 'ledge', as in *A' Phalla Bhàn*, 'white cliff', and *Phalla nan Sreang*, 'cliff of the ropes'. Another term for a coastal rock is G *stalla* as in *Stalla an Eich Bhàin*, 'sea-rock of the white horse'. It is a loanword from ON *stallr*, 'sea-rock' or 'shelf', but occurs less frequently than *palla*.

G *uidh*, borrowed from ON *eið*, describes an 'isthmus', a flat narrow piece of land between two straits. The Scandinavians often used these places as shortcuts by dragging their boats from one strait to the other across the narrow strip of land. In Barra this would not have been necessary as circumnavigation of the land would have taken less time. The Vatersay settlement *Uidh* takes its name from the nearby isthmus, and *Traihui*, an old form collected by MacLean in 1823 for what is nowadays known as *Tràigh Siar*, 'west beach', in Vatersay, is certain to contain the generic *uidh* as it links the rocky northern part of Vatersay with its rocky southern part by a narrow stretch of dunes. Other elements which were not borrowed but retain their ON forms are *áll*, as in *A' Mhiriceil*, 'the dark stretch', indicating a dark stripe on the rocky shore, and *hpmull* as in *Sumula*, designating a 'layer of pebbles' or 'pebbly beach'. Additionally there is ON *eyrr*, 'sand-bank' or 'gravel-bank', as in *Eorisdale*, and ON *melr*, 'sea-stead', as in *Melast*.

The influence of English on coastal features is minimal. *Arch*, *bank* and *dunes* are terms which occur merely on maps and *Gob an t-Seór*, 'point of the shore', remains the only coastal place-name to include a gaelicised element borrowed from English.

7.1.5 Promontories

Some of the elements in this group qualify as coastal features, too. There is G *leac*, 'ledge of rock' or more commonly 'flagstone', as in *An Leac Ruadh*, 'red flagstone', and the well-known *Leac nan Leannan*, 'the lovers' flagstone'. This element also features in *An Leacach*, 'the stony ground', which is used to describe sites in the interior. G *sròn* as in *Sròn an Iasgair*, 'fisherman's nose', and *Sròn an Dùin*, 'promontory of the fort', are large rock reliefs and are used in both coastal and interior context.

The most often used G element for a large- to medium-sized promontory is *rubha* as in *Rubha Domhain*, 'steep promontory', *Rubh' an t-Sith*, 'peace point'. *Rubha* is the most popular G word for headlands and occurs as generic in 115 place-names of the Barra Isles. Far less productive is G *àird*, 'headland', 'height' as in *Àird Rubha Mór*, 'height of the large headland'. G *gob* refers to the extremity of

a promontory. Another G term for the 'top' or 'point' of a place is G *ceann*. This element is productive in *Kentangaval*, 'point of the mountain of the headland', and in *Kinloch*, 'point of the loch'. G *amhach* as part of *Amhach Rubha na h-Acarsaid*, 'neck of the point of the landing-place', and *dòirlinn*, another term for an 'isthmus', are much rarer than the above mentioned elements.



Figure 7.29: Tràigh Hamara, looking towards Greian Head

On maps and charts the Eng. generics *head* and *point* are used for all locations which are important for navigation. There is *Greian Head*, *Dòirlinn Head*, the most well-known *Barra Head*, *Scurrival Point* to the very north, *Bruernish Point* at the entrance to North Bay, and *Skate Point* just off Barra Head Lighthouse.

Three ON generics have been productive in this group. There is *stong* as in *Stoung Beag*, 'small peninsula', and *Stoung Mór*, 'large peninsula', both of which lie near Borge. ON *múli* occurs as a term for a 'headland' in *Gunamul*. An ON element which operates on the same scale of importance and frequency as G *rubha* is ON *nes*, 'headland' or 'promontory'. Place-name examples include *Rosinish*, 'horse peninsula', *Bruernish*, 'bridge headland', and *Lechinish*, 'shelter headland'. *Nes* is the most extensively used ON element describing headlands.

7.1.6 Relief features

Relief features include mountains, hills, mounds, summits, ledges, slopes, rocks, valleys and hollows.

The highest mountains in Barra, *Heaval*, ‘high mountain’, and *Hartaval*, ‘horse mountain’, contain the ON generic *fjall*, which also occurs in *Ben Tangaval*, ‘mountain of the headland’, where it is supplemented by its G equivalent *beinn*. G *beinn* also occurs, of course, in purely G context as in the names *A’ Bheinn Mhór*, ‘the large mountain’, and *Beinn Mhartainn*, ‘Martin’s mountain’. In contrast to the ON element *fjall*, in the Western Isles often modified to *-val*, which only covers high mountains, G *beinn* caters for a wider range of sizes. G *An t-Aonach Pabach*, ‘the Pabbay plateau’, has the alias name *The Hoe*, a derivation of from ON *haugr*, ‘hill’. The mountain name *Na Sgurragan* derives from G *sgùrr*, a loan from ON *skǫr*, ‘the sharp-pointed hills’. The G element *tom* describes a ‘round knoll’ and is represented in names like *Tom a’ Reithean*, ‘the young ram’s knoll’, and *Tom na Beinne*, ‘round knoll of the mountain’, both of which are high elevations.

G is the dominant language for names of medium-sized hills with common terms being *meall*, ‘knoll’ or ‘mound’, and *cnoc*, ‘eminence’ or ‘hill’. Both elements are frequently used, examples being *Cnoc an Tairbh*, ‘bull hill’ and *Am Meall Mór*, ‘the big knoll’. G *tòrr* is related to Lat. *turris* and has the meaning of ‘hillock’ as in *Tor Gormlaig*, ‘hillock of the blue flagstone’. ‘Fairy knoll’ is the translation of G *An Sithean*, of which there are at least two in Barra.

Small elevations include terms like ON *hóll*, ‘mound’, as in *Greòtal*, ‘gravel mound’, and G *cnap/gnob*, a loan from ON *knappr*, as in *Cnap a’ Choilich*, ‘mound of the grouse’. G *bot* means bank as in *Am Bota Ruadh*, ‘the red peat bank’.

Mountain or hill tops are referred to with three G generics. *Sgùmban* is part of *An Sgùmban a Tuath*, ‘the northern summit’. *Uachdar* in a place-names context means ‘summit’ or ‘top’, and in the Barra name *An t-Uachdar* designates the upper part of the township of Cleat. *Mullach* also has the meaning of ‘top’, ‘hill’ or ‘summit’ and occurs in the Bruernish place-name *Mullach an Rathaid*, ‘top of the road’. In this group G *mullach* is the most frequently used term.

General terms for rocks G are *clach*, ‘stone’, G *creag*, ‘rock’, ‘cliff’ or ‘hill’, and G *cleit*, a loan from ON *klettr*, meaning ‘rock’, ‘cliff’ or ‘sea-rock’. Standing stones carry G names like *Am Bodach*, ‘the old man’, and *A’ Chailleach*, ‘the old woman’. A rock named after its shape is G *bonnach*, a loan from Sco. ‘bannock’. G *carragh* is the term for a pillar-shaped stone and G *càrn* describes a stone mound.

Slopes are designated by terms such as ON *lein*, ‘mountain side’, as in *Na Latha-Lìn*, ‘the layered mountain side’. ON *brekka*, ‘slope’, occurs in *Ùlabrac*, ‘slope of the wolf’, and ON *urð* occurs in *Clach Urth*, ‘stone of the rocky slope’. G generics for slopes include *leathad*, ‘slope’, as in *An Leathad Cas*, ‘the steep slope’, and *bruach*, which can also mean ‘bank’, as in *Bruach Hamhsdail*, ‘slope/bank of Haussdel’. *Bac* is the gaelicised form of ON *bakki*, ‘bank’.

G *gualann* describes the ‘shoulder of a mountain’ as in *A’ Ghuala’ Mhór*, ‘the big shoulder’. The most common G generic for a ridge is *druim* and forms part of *Druim an t-Sruth*, ‘ridge of the current’, and *Druim na Crìche*, ‘ridge of the boundary’.

With the exception of ON *dalr*, all terms for ‘valley’ are of G origin. *Dalr* is productive in the ON name *Skipisdale*, ‘ship valley’. This element is used for large valleys and slopes and is a popular settlement generic. Its G equivalent is *gleann*, which in Barra, too, has become a settlement name. *Bealach* as in *Bealach Dhuggain*, ‘Fr. Duggan’s pass’, describes a passage between two mountains and occurs frequently in Barra’s nomenclature. G *caigeann* is a ‘rough mountain pass’, whereas the popular G element *cadha* is more like a ‘wind channel’. *Sgòr* as in *Sgòr a’ Chait*, ‘cleft of the cat’, describes a concavity in the rock, and *glaic* describes a ‘hollow or shallow cut in a rock’ as in *Glaic an Daimh*, ‘hollow of the bullock’. G *lag*, *coire*, *nead* and *sùil* all designate kinds of concavities with *uamh*, ‘cave’, being the deepest.

7.1.7 Freshwater Features

Although elements from Eng., G and ON have been productive in naming freshwater features, it is G that has the most versatile vocabulary and dominates in this group.

There is G *féith*, ‘vein’, describing an underground stream as in *Féith na Cailliche*, ‘old woman’s vein’, a place where sheep are easily lost. More common features are G *sruthan* meaning rivulet, *allt* meaning stream, and *abhainn* which translates as ‘river’. These features, however, are much smaller than mainland Scotland features which have the same generics.

G *eas*, ‘waterfall’, occurred in the secondary name *Loch an Eais Dhuibh*, ‘lake of the dark waterfall’, but the location of the waterfall itself, could not be identified. All names for wells contain the G generic *tobar* which is usually compounded with the name of the person on whose croft it is located. Other wells are described in terms of colour, quality of water or general location. Examples include *Tobar*

Aonghais, 'Angus's well', *Tobar na Slàinte*, 'well of good health', and *Tobar na Square*, 'well of the square'. Up until and including their second edition, wells were indicated on the OS six-inch maps.

Loch is the common G generic for 'lake' as in *Loch an Dùin*, 'lake of the fort', and in the Western Isles is also used for sea-lochs as in *Loch Obe*.¹⁷⁰ G caters for a wide range of smaller freshwater features such as *glumag*, 'deep pool' or 'muddy, wet area', *lub*, 'marshy ground', and *slugaid* which describes a site of quicksand or a miry place as in *Slugaide*. G *poll* is 'deep, stagnant water' or 'wet, miry meadow'. G *léig*, a 'marshy pool', is related to Lat. *linquo* and Eng. loan. The G term *lón*, 'meadow', 'pond', 'water', deserves special attention as it has a parallel form in ON *lón*, which has a slightly different meaning, designating a 'deep, slow running stream'.¹⁷¹ In this group, generics from other languages are rare. The Sco. generic *burn* occurs only once, in *Duarry Burn*, and the Eng. word *well* appears only as part of *Usborne's Well*. ON *hlaupr*, which means 'run of water', is possibly part of the otherwise obscure name *Analepp an Ear*.

7.1.8 Husbandry and Agricultural Areas

Although G dominates in agricultural terminology, it has borrowed a few frequently used words from other languages. The generic in *Goirtean Eòrna*, 'barley field', and *Goirtean Iain*, 'John's field', is based on Lat. 'hortus' and related to Eng. 'garden', and in G has a number of different meanings including 'little corn-field', 'enclosure', 'park', and 'small patch of arable land'. Other loanwords from Eng. are G *croit*, 'croft', as in *Croit Iseabail*, G *lot*, 'share' or 'part', from Eng. 'allotment', and G *pàirc*, 'enclosed field', an obvious borrowing from Eng. 'park'. The Eng. term *pendicle* describes a 'part of land that belongs to, but is detached from, a township'. The Eng. word *shieling*, a term for a 'temporary summer accommodation' used by shepherds, has been introduced by map-makers. Locals use the G equivalent *àirigh* as in *Àirigh Bun na Beinneadh*, 'shieling at the foot of the hill', *Earsary*, 'Eric's shieling' and *Skallary*, 'Skolli's shieling'. A 'milking-place' or 'enclosure' is called *buaile* in G as in *Buaile na h-Àirde*, 'enclosure of the promontory', and *A' Bhuaile Bhuidhe*, 'the yellow enclosure'. The ON term for a 'milking-place' is *støðull*, which in Norway is frequently used as settlement generic. In Barra it may occur in *Sgeir Bhioraghasdail*, possibly translated as 'skerry of Bjørn's milking-place'. There may be more examples in Barra, but the modified form of this generic, *-still*, can easily be mistaken for a combination of 's'-genitive and ON *dalr*, 'valley', which happens to follow a similar sound

¹⁷⁰The spelling reflects the OS entry. Locals pronounce this name as *Loch na h-Òb*.

¹⁷¹For further information see W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1958:196-198.

pattern. Place-names in which *stòdull* may have been productive were almost all located in valleys or at slopes, so that derivation from either *stòdull* or *dalr* would have been possible.

A variety of terms are available for enclosures. There are Eng. *sheep wash*, *sheep pen* and *fold*, all mapped translations of older G names. G words include *iodhlann*, ‘corn-yard’, ‘enclosure’ or ‘circle’, as in *Iodhlann Mór a’ Mhaoir*, ‘big enclosure of the ground officer’, and *cotan* as in *Cotan an Laoigh*, ‘fold of the calf’. Other G terms for enclosures are loanwords like *fang* from Sco. ‘fank’, *cuidh* from ON *kví*, *gearraidh* from ON *gerði*, and *gàradh* from ON *garðr* which describes a ‘dyke’. *Cuidh* and *gearraidh* are particularly popular elements of this group and occur in names like *A’ Chuidh’ Mhór*, ‘the big enclosure’, *Cuidhe Bheag a’ Bhuntàta*, ‘small fold of the potatoes’ and *An Gearraidh Ùr*, ‘the new enclosure’. G *cachaileith* as in *A’ Chachaileith Ùr*, ‘the new gate’, and *A’ Chachaileith Mhór*, ‘the big gate’, are paralleled in G *geata*, a loan from Eng. ‘gate’, as in *An Geata Geal*, ‘the white gate’, and *An Geata Iarainn*, ‘the iron gate’.

There are a plenty of generics for describing rather neutral pieces of ground. A popular G term is *cùil* as in *Cùil a’ Ghàraidh*, ‘neuk of the dyke’. G *réidh* as in *Réidh Fhlodaigh*, ‘plain of the flat island’, describes a ‘meadow’ or ‘level piece of ground’. G *sliabh* indicates places of ‘extended heath’ or ‘moorish ground’. Further G generics for level areas are *bogach*, ‘swamp’, as in the settlement name *Bogach*, *mòinteach*, ‘moorland’, as in the name *Mòinteach Bhail’ nam Bodach*, *criathrach*, which is used for ‘wilderness, swampy areas’, and *machair* which describes an ‘extensive, low-lying plain’. In addition to these G entries there are two ON generics. ON *land* forms part of *Vaslain*, ‘wet land’, a boggy area south of Suidheachan. In Norway, this generic is used as a settlement generic, and *Vaslain* too, according to the Craigston Register, used to be inhabited. The second generic is ON *slétta*, ‘level piece of ground’ as in the secondary name *Bay Sletta*.¹⁷²

7.1.9 Settlements and Man-made Constructions

A G settlement generic is *baile* which means ‘village’, as in *Baile na Creige*, ‘settlement of the rock’.¹⁷³ *Taigh* is the general G term for a ‘house’ and is most often compounded with the personal name of its latest owner. *Tobhta*, a ‘ruin’ in G, is possibly related to ON *toft*, a ‘clearing’ or ‘walls without roof’, whereas *bùth*, ‘bothy’ has its roots in ON *buð*. *Caisteal* has been borrowed from Lat. *castellum*, a ‘fort’. In Barra the general term for fortified places is G *dùn* as in *Dùn*

¹⁷²ON *slétta* is likely to have been a primary name and as such acted as a generic, however, in Barra it occurs as a specific only.

¹⁷³See Craigston in the gazetteer.

Briste, ‘broken fort’, and in *Dùnan Ruadh*, ‘little red fort’. Another G term for a fortified place is *crannag*, which describes a partially natural and partially man-made island. There is a place called *Crannag*, north of Ardmhór, and a fortified, artificial island is located in Loch Tangusdale and is the site of *Dùn MhicLeòid*, ‘MacLeod’s fort’. This island fulfills the requirements for a ‘crannag’ but remains nameless. An ON generic indicating settlement, but initially describing a ‘fortified site’, is *borg* from which *Borve* has taken its name. *Horough* is derived from ON *hgrgr*, ‘pile of stones’, and describes an important former site of pagan worship. Further ON settlement generics include *staðir* as in *Melast*, *sætr* as in *Sheader*, and *bólstaðr*, which has been productive in three names: *An Garrabost*, *Husabost*¹⁷⁴ and *Suinsibost*.¹⁷⁵

Man-made constructions include G *dám*, a loan from Eng. ‘dam’, G *ceidh* from Eng. ‘quay’ and G *tucaid*, a borrowing from Sco. *douket*, a ‘dove-cot’. During the last century map-makers placed a number of Eng. names on the map, including words such as *factory*, *hospital*, *house*, *inn*, *mill*, *monument*, *pillar*, *post-office*, *school* and *station*. Death, worship and church property are reflected in the Eng. terms *cell*, *chapel*, *church*, *glebe*, *graveyard*, *manse* and *presbytery*. G generics in this field are *cill*, ‘cell’, a loan from Lat. *cella*, as in *Kilbar*, and G *uaigh* as in *Uaigh na Cailliche*, ‘old woman’s grave’.

Further evidence of human activity may be identified in terminology for traffic routes. G generics include *ceum*, ‘path’, as in *Ceum na Gualainn*, ‘path of the shoulder’, *drochaid* as in *Drochaid nan Coineanach*, ‘the rabbits’ bridge’, *Drochaid a’ Bhéiceir*, ‘the baker’s bridge’, and *Drochaid Bàgh Chòrnaig*, ‘bridge of the corn bay’. Additionally there is G *rathad*, related to MEng. *roade*, ‘road’, and G *ùthrathad*, which describes a path providing free access to common grazing or detached parts of a croft. This term is also related to MEng. *roade* and possibly to ON *ut-reið*, ‘out travel’. Eng. terms include *street*, as in *Stupid Street* in Eoligarry, and *square*, of which there is one in Castlebay and one in the centre of Vatersay Village.¹⁷⁶

7.1.10 Vegetation

All generics in Barra’s place-names describing kinds of vegetation are of G origin. There is *coille*, ‘forest’, as in the simplex form *A’ Choille* and in the compound

¹⁷⁴This name is no longer actively used as a generic but occurs as part of the secondary name *Abhainn Husabost*. The settlement itself could not be located and therefore the name is not separately listed in the gazetteer.

¹⁷⁵See appendix A, name 114.

¹⁷⁶See in gazetteer under *The Square*.



Figure 7.30: Vatersay Village, formerly An Scarp

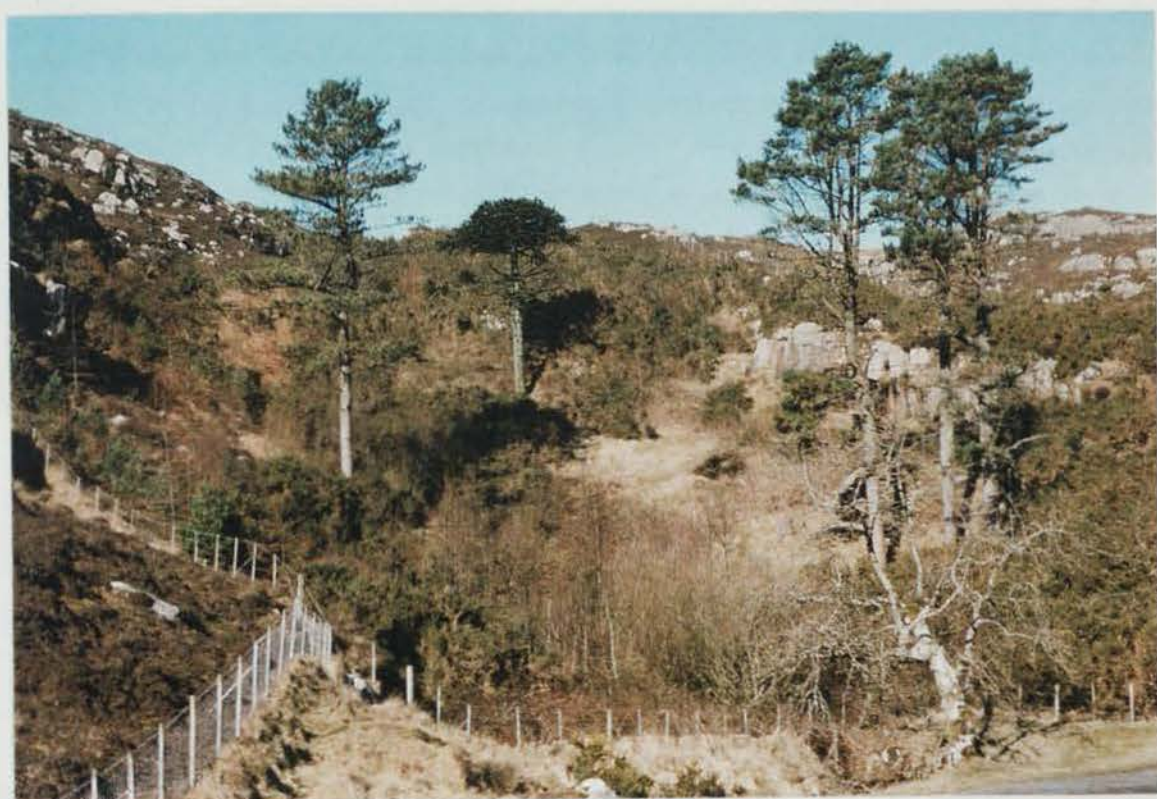


Figure 7.31: A' Choille at An Tobar Ruadh

form *Coille Chriochan*, 'boundary forest'. In windswept Barra where there are hardly any trees or bushes, just a few trees are sufficient for an area to qualify as a 'coille'. The same applies to individual trees commemorated in place-names such as *A' Chraobh*, 'the tree', and *An Craobhan*, 'the little tree'. Further generics include *conasg*, 'gorse', and *seasg*, 'bog-reed'.

7.2 Tautologies

Tautologies are created when the meaning of the original generic is obscured and a further generic with the same meaning is added.

In Barra there are a number of tautological names based on well-known combinations such as *bàgh/bay – vík/vágr*, *beinn – fjall*, *glen – dalr* and *sloc – gjá*. There are also a few less obvious constellations, such as *Caolas Shnagaras*, 'sound + sound of the headland', and *Ruroshinish*, a historical form of *Rosinish*, meaning 'headland + horse headland'.

Cox is correct in pointing out that it is irrelevant whether or not the lexical meaning of the original name is understood by the creators of the tautological form, as the original name functions as an onomastic unit.¹⁷⁷ The question of why tautologies are formed in the first place leads us back to the second chapter and the process of name-creation. As discussed, words pass from a lexical level through an associative level, before eventually gaining onomastic meaning and becoming names. As long as the onomastic meaning of a name is strong, regardless of whether or not the name is transparent, its survival is guaranteed. But if it starts to weaken, the name is either replaced or lost altogether. In a tautological name the original name¹⁷⁸ has weakened, and would no doubt have been lost, had it not been strengthened by the addition of another generic, which in tautological names happens to repeat the meaning of the generic of the original name. The creators of tautologies are no doubt unaware of the lexical meaning the original name once had. To the fading original name, they simply add the most obvious characteristic of a place, and in most cases the addition will be of a generic describing the place. As a consequence, the original name is transformed from an independent unit to a dependent unit¹⁷⁹ which thereafter functions, to some degree, as a specific.

Here another question arises. Why would a name-creator not invent an entirely new name instead of recycling an old opaque one? The answer lies in the fact that the onomastic force of the existing name may be weakened, yet remain too

¹⁷⁷See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:91.

¹⁷⁸This is before it becomes an ex-nomine unit.

¹⁷⁹Cox calls it an ex-nomine unit. See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:91.

strong to be ignored. Hence the addition of a lexically meaningful generic which leads to creation of a tautological name, which in return gives the old name a new lease of life. Tautologies are not a result of lack of intensive language contact among various groups of settlers. If that had been the case, as happens in many bilingual communities, a location would be given two names, both with the same meaning, but each used independently of the other.

Tautologies are insignificant in a synchronic analysis of the nomenclature. In a diachronic analysis, however, they mark an important, independent stage of name development and help establish an approximate chronological order.

This is illustrated in the example of the OS name *Tresivick*, which first appears in the Ordnance Survey Object Name Book in 1878, and is still marked on present day maps. Locals of Vatersay, however, have created a tautology and refer to the location as *Bàgh Thréisibhig*.

The comparison of *geo*, from ON *gjá*, 'gully', and its G equivalent *sloc* in the Barra Isles reveals further information. G *sloc* appears as the generic in 134 primary names in either simplex or compound form. Whereas the element *geo* has survived in the simplex names *An Geòdha*, in Brevig Bay, *An Geòdha Beag*, north-west of Doirlinn, and in *Na Geòdhachan*, on the south coast of Mingulay, it has disappeared from maps and minds in compound form unless supplemented by G *sloc*. This is the case in eight names which are actively used by Barra's inhabitants, examples being *Sloc Hiasigeo* in Berneray, *Sloc Glamarigeo* in Pabbay, and *Sloc Heisegeo* in Mingulay. Historical records show that there used to be three further tautological names, specifically *Slockghrigeo*¹⁸⁰ in Fiaray, *Slockchrasigeo*¹⁸¹ in Scurrival, and *Slockl?iegeo*¹⁸² at the south-east side of Am Meall in Vatersay. Furthermore, the MacLean map of 1823 lists *Ruringeo*¹⁸³, and Allan McDonald's list of non-Gaelic place-names in Mingulay provides *Tremmisgeo*¹⁸⁴ and *Laiki-geo*¹⁸⁵, all of which contain *geo* as the sole generic, but none of which have found their way into modern usage.

¹⁸⁰See name 1 in appendix A.

¹⁸¹See name 13 in appendix A.

¹⁸²See name 71 in appendix A.

¹⁸³See name 79 in appendix A.

¹⁸⁴This name may be related to or even name the same location as *Sloc Chremisgeo*. See name 103 in appendix A.

¹⁸⁵See name 106 in appendix A.

7.3 Aliases

Just over 18% of names in the Barra group are alias names meaning that there are at least two names competing to designate the same feature. The alias names may be subdivided into four general groups.

7.3.1 Abbreviation

Often a place-name is shortened to a simple name when used within a close community such as a township¹⁸⁶, and, conversely, a name may be extended when a non-local is naming a feature in a lesser known part of the island. The following four examples show various versions of abbreviations:

<i>An Tràigh a Deas</i>	<i>Tràigh a Deas Shannndraigh</i>
<i>A' Chleit</i>	<i>Cleit a' Chaolais</i>
<i>A' Mhuc</i>	<i>Sgeir na Muice</i>
<i>Am Bàgh</i>	<i>Bàgh nan Ròn</i>

7.3.2 Modification

There are varying degrees of modification. Some alias names only correspond in either the generic or the specific while the other parts of the names differ considerably.

Taigh a' Mhàil, 'house of the rent', is the place where the rent collector used to live. It has the parallel name of *Taigh an Dà Mhàil*, 'house of the two rents', as the rent collector used to fulfill his duty twice a year. Since the house has become a ruin, another name, *Tobht' a' Mhàil*, the 'ruin of the rent', has been established.

Two narrow inlets on the west side of Vatersay are both called *Sloc nan Calman*, 'gully of the pigeons'. Only locals who were aware that both gullies carried the same name knew of the further distinguishing names *Sloc Beag nan Calman*, 'small gully of the pigeons', and *Sloc Mór nan Calman*, 'big gully of the pigeons'.

Examples of this group are:

¹⁸⁶See section 2.3.2.

<i>Tràigh na Halman</i> ‘half-moon beach’	<i>Tràigh Thangasdail</i> ‘Tangusdale beach’
<i>An Rubha Dubh</i> ‘the dark promontory’	<i>Ru-Fear-Vatersay</i> ‘promontory of the tacksman of Vatersay’
<i>Sloc Slétta</i> ‘gully of the plain’	<i>Sloc na Muice</i> ‘pig gully’
<i>Taigh an Tairbh</i> ‘the bull’s house’	<i>Bothag an Tairbh</i> ‘the bull’s hut’

Some features have three or even more aliases. This is the case with *Sgeir a’ Bhoiler*, ‘skerry of the boiler’, which is also known as *Sgeir a’ Phòla*, ‘pole skerry’, and *Sgeir Onorach*, ‘distinguished rock’. *Sloc Grisivick*, ‘gully of pig bay’, too, has two alias names in *An Sloc Mór*, ‘the big gully’, and *Sloc an Éisg*, ‘fish gully’. It is striking that two large lakes in Barra boast four/five aliases each whereas other lakes on the island are known to have only one name. The first feature in question is *Loch Tangusdale* for which even the OS provide two names on their maps. The name *Loch Tangusdale* was obviously inspired by the name of the township on whose ground it is located. The name *Loch St. Clair* was the invention of a 19th century novelist which found its way on to a map. Another name, *An Loch Mór*, ‘big lake’, compares the loch with a neighbouring one which is considerably smaller. *Loch an Eas Dhuibhe*, ‘lake of the dark waterfall’, is the fourth variant and refers to a cateract which is part of one of the two streams contributing to the loch. With *Dùn MhicLeòid* situated on an island in the lake some people refer to the site as *Loch MhicLeòid*.

Another prominent feature is a lake on the east side of Barra. The name *Loch Scotageary*, ‘lake of the enclosure of ?’, is an OS entry, but the feature was known by that name to only one individual among all the interviewees. A number of more contemporary names are in circulation. The names *Loch nan Flùraichean*, ‘lake of the flowers’, and *Loch nan Lilies* both refer to the extensive growth of water-lilies which is found at that place. A fourth name, *Loch an Rubha*, ‘lake of the promontory’, refers to a nearby headland.

Another feature with a large number of aliases is a small, scenically located islet in the sheltered part of Northbay harbour. It is called *Eilean nan Rodan*, ‘rat island’, *Eilean nan Gàadh*, ‘geese island’, *Eilean na Craoibh*, ‘tree island’, *An t-Eilean Beag*, ‘the small island’, and *Statue Island*. Among these five names only the last two are obvious choices, as the island is small and accommodates a statue. The reason for this variety of names may lie not only in the lack of communication among different user groups. Despite its prominent location, the islet does not serve as a landmark, because there are more striking features in the vicinity, nor is it of any economic function or value.

7.3.3 Full or Partial Translation

In a number of cases names have been translated from one language into another, mostly from Gaelic to English, with ON ex-nomine units untouched.

<i>Bàgh a' Chaisteil</i>	<i>Castlebay</i>
<i>Bàgh nan Ròn</i>	<i>Seal Bay</i>
<i>Baile na Creige</i>	<i>Craigston</i>
<i>Sgeir na Halman</i>	<i>Halaman Skerry</i>
<i>Bàgh Chòrnaig</i>	<i>Cornaig Bay</i>
<i>Na h-Eileanan Dubha</i>	<i>Black Islands</i>

Not every translation is literal. There are names which have undergone modification by partial translation or grammatical variation, examples being:

Sròn Queen Victoria 'Queen Victoria's nose' *Queen Victoria Rock*

7.3.4 Unrelated Aliases

When a feature has two entirely unrelated names they most often originate in different languages. Examples include:

<i>Cnoc nan Caorach</i> 'hill of the sheep'	<i>Upper Bruernish</i>
<i>Bogha Dubh an Dùin</i> 'dark reef of the fort'	<i>Twin Rocks</i>
<i>Na Creagan Móra</i> 'the large rocks'	<i>Tea Rooms</i>
<i>Baile MhicNéill</i> 'MacNeil's village'	<i>Castlebay</i>
<i>Bannish</i> 'straight headland'	<i>Wedding Point</i>

7.4 Aspects of Phonology

This section discusses some phonological observations made in the place-names of Barra.

7.4.1 Assimilation

Assimilation occurs when a speech sound is modified by a neighbouring sound. In the G word *cladh*, 'graveyard', the short /a/ before /r/ becomes /ø/ as in the name *Cladh Bhrianain* [k'LØʁ'vRiANaɪn].

¹⁹⁰For further examples see C. Hj. Borgström, 1937:138f. and R. A. V. Cox, 1987:124f.

<i>Sgeir an Fhéidh</i>	[,sk'erə 'Nje:]
<i>Pàirc' an Fheòir</i>	[,p'ærçkə 'Njɔ:r]
<i>An Geàrraidh Àrd</i>	[ə,ŋgɑRi 'ɑ:ɾd]
<i>Beul an Fheadain</i>	[,bʲɑLN'jedan]

After weakly stressed monosyllabic words a schwa-sound is occasionally inserted if the following word begins in a consonant.

<i>An t-Allt Ruadh</i>	[ə,NauLtə 'Ruəɾ]
<i>A' Chleit Ruadh</i>	[ə 'xLe:ʰft'ə 'Ruəɾ]

7.4.4 Reduction

Long vowels or diphthongs are reduced to half-long vowels or monophthongs when they occur in weakly stressed syllables.

<i>An Àird Ghlas</i>	[ə ,Nɑɾd 'ɣLas]
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7.4.5 Differentiation

If an initial occlusive, spirant or m-sound is followed by an /n/, the latter becomes /r/ and a subsequent vowel is nasalised.¹⁹¹

<i>An Cnoc Mór</i>	[ə,ŋgrɔxk 'mo:r]
<i>An Cnap Glas</i>	[ə,ŋgrãʰp 'gLas]
<i>Lag nan Cnàimh</i>	[,Lak nən 'k're:v]

7.4.6 Metathesis

Metathesis takes place when a consonant in front of and a consonant behind a vowel change place. This is the case in *G trosg*, 'cod-fish', a loan from ON *purskr*, as in *Bogha nan Trosg*, 'reef of the cod-fish'.

7.4.7 Interchange

The sounds /l/ and /n/ are occasionally interchanged as in *Eilean Vialish* (OS, 1977), spelt in historical sources as *Ellenviallish* (MacLean, 1823) and *Vialish Island* (AD, 1874), but pronounced as [el'ɛN 'viãniʃ]. COATES observes a similar phenomenon in some St. Kildan place-names.¹⁹²

¹⁹¹See C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:136ff.

¹⁹²See R. Coates, 1990.

7.4.8 Loss of Consonants

Nasals occurring before laterals are lost.¹⁹³ This is the case in Barra's *Ben Lericbreck*, pronounced as [ˌbɛi 'je:ribrɪk].

Nasals before /ʃ/ are also dropped as in *Innis Bhàn* [ĩ-ĩʃ'vā:n] and *Innisgeir* [ĩ-ĩʃk'er].

Nasals are lost after laterals as in *Mol nam Faochag* [ˌmɔlə 'fɛ:xak].¹⁹⁴

ON *bólstaðr* as part of *An Garrabost* has lost its lateral and its ending. The initial 'h' of ON words is dropped in some of Barra's place-names. Examples are *An Rochd Mór*, 'the large tangle-grown sunken rock', from ON *hrukka*, and *Leehinish*, 'shelter headland', from ON *hlið*.

7.4.9 Aspiration

7.4.9.1 Preaspiration

Twinned voiceless occlusives in ON loanwords become aspirated in Barra's place-names.¹⁹⁵

ON bakki	<i>Bac</i>	[ˈbaxk]
ON brekka	<i>Ùlabrac</i>	[ˈu:ləbraxkʰ]
ON hrukka	<i>An Rochd Mór</i>	[ən ɾɔxk 'mo:r]
ON klettr	<i>A' Chleit</i>	[ə 'xle:ʰtʃ]
ON knappr	<i>Cnap a' Choilich</i>	[k'rāʰpə 'xøliç]

7.4.9.2 Lenition

Nine of the twelve consonants used in Gaelic¹⁹⁶ may be 'softened' or aspirated under certain grammatical circumstances. This process, called lenition, is not restricted to Gaelic words only, but applies to all words used within a Gaelic language contact. In many cases lenition of ON names makes it difficult to trace their origin as it silences certain consonants or obscures whether for example a word begins with the letter 'b' or 'm' as they both sound like /v/ after lenition. The following conversion table illustrates possible changes.

¹⁹³See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:127.

¹⁹⁴See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:127.

¹⁹⁵See C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:132.

¹⁹⁶The potential thirteenth consonant, 'h', is exempted from this count as it is predominantly used in lenition. See R. Black, 1992:17.

bh, mh	→ /v/	<i>Clach a' Bhealaich</i>	[,k'ɫaxə 'væɫɔx]
		<i>Pàirc a' Mheadhoin</i>	[,p'ærçkə 'vĩən]
ch	→ /x/	<i>Dùn Chlif</i>	[,ðu:n 'xlif]
fh	→ silent	<i>Poll Fhlodaigh</i>	[,p'ɔ'ɫɔdai]
ph	→ /f/	<i>A' Phalla Bhàn</i>	[ə ,fɔɫə 'vā:n]
sh, th	→ /h/	<i>Tràigh Shannadraigh</i>	[,t'ra:j 'haundrɛi]
dh, gh	→ /ġ/	<i>Abhainn Dhrolum</i>	[,ãũ-in 'ġrɔɫum]
		<i>Beinn Ghunnairigh</i>	[,bɛin 'ġunaɾi]

7.4.10 Eclipsis

The loss of sound which in certain Gaelic dialects occurs when /m/ or /n/ is followed by another consonant is known as eclipsis. “It does not affect the grammar or meaning of Scottish Gaelic in the way lenition does, and its nature varies from dialect to dialect.”¹⁹⁷ The following two Barra place-names are examples of eclipsis:

<i>Sloc nan Con</i>	‘gully of dogs’	[,slɔxk nə ŋġ'ɔN']
<i>An Geata Geal</i>	‘the white gate’	[ə ,ŋġ'æhtə 'ġ'æɫ]

7.5 Aspects of Morphology

Borgstrøm undertook a thorough examination of the Gaelic of Barra including its morphology.¹⁹⁸ This section is based on his detailed observations but tailored to suit a place-names context. It is illustrated, and where appropriate, extended with place-names examples of the Barra Isles.

7.5.1 Substantive

7.5.1.1 Gender

The absence of gender in modern English contrasts with the use of two genders, m and f, in Gaelic, and three genders, m, f and n, in Old Norse.

In translation of names from G to Eng. the gender is lost.

Depending on the gender of the noun the following adjective can be changed.¹⁹⁹

¹⁹⁷R. Black, 1992:195.

¹⁹⁸See C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:158–198.

¹⁹⁹See section 7.5.2.

In a number of G borrowings from ON the gender of the original word has been changed. This was the case in the following loanwords.

ON <i>akkeris-setr</i> (n)	→	G <i>acarsaid</i> (f)
ON <i>buð</i> (f)	→	G <i>bùth</i> (m)
ON <i>klettr</i> (m)	→	G <i>cleit</i> (f)
ON <i>øy</i> (f)	→	G <i>eilean</i> (m)

7.5.1.2 Case

Of the five cases, nominative, genitive, dative, accusative and vocative which are used in G grammar, only the first two play an important role in place-name composition. The dative case is rarely used, appearing only after prepositions,²⁰⁰ and occurs only four times in the nomenclature of Barra. Most Gaelic names, however, were collected in an oral context and were not, therefore, recorded in the nominative form. Where appropriate, the name has been restored to nominative case.

7.5.1.3 Article

G has no indefinite article.

In G the definite article can, under certain circumstances, alter the initial sound of the noun. The processes in question are usually referred to as eclipsis and lenition. Lenition takes place in, for example, masculine sg. substantives in genitive case if they begin with the letters 'b', 'f', 'm', 'p', 'c' or 'g'.

<i>Sloc a' Bhòcain</i>	[slɔxk ə vɔːxkain]
<i>Sgeir a' Chlaidheimh</i>	[sk'er'ə xLai-u]
<i>Lèan' a' Mhinisteir</i>	[L'ianə 'vīNɪʃt'ər]

Lenition also affects f. sg. nouns in nominative case if they begin with 'b', 'f', 'm', 'p', 'c' or 'g' and are preceded by the definite article.

<i>A' Bhuaile</i>	[ə 'vuəlɔ]
<i>A' Chachaileith</i>	[ə 'xaxalɛɪ]
<i>A' Mhol</i>	[ə 'vɔɫ]

In a few names an Eng. noun in genitive case is connected to a G noun in nominative case by a G article. Examples are *Creag na Cuckoo*, *Tobar na Square*, *Eilean nam Bluebells* and *Sloc na Teileagraf*.

²⁰⁰See C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:159.

In addition to the OS entry *Loch Obe* there is the locally used form of *Loch na h-Òb*. Cox associates the intrusive article with a ‘relatively late preference for the use of the article’.²⁰¹

The Eng. definite article occurs not only in combination with Eng. substantives. It may also be used with G substantives as in *The Aird*, *The Glen* and with ON substantives as in *The Hoe* and *The Stoung*.

7.5.1.4 Personal Names

In the genitive case men’s names are always lenited.

Seumas	[ˈfɛ:məs]	<i>Eilean Sheumais</i>	[elˈɛN ˈhe:miʃ]
Dòmhnall	[ˈd̪ɔ̃-əl]	<i>Creag Dhòmhnail Ruaidh</i>	[kˈrekˈɾ̪ɔ̃əlˈRu-əʲ]
Murchadh	[ˈmuruxəɾ]	<i>Cuidhe Mhurchaidh</i>	[kˈuiə ˈvuruxi]

7.5.1.5 Irregular Nouns

A number of substantives are strongly inflected as in the following example.

cù ‘dog’

		sg.		pl.
nominative	cù	[kˈu:]	coin	[kˈɔ̃Nˈ]
genitive	coin	[kˈɔ̃Nˈ]	chon	[xɔ̃n] / [ɲg̊ˈɔ̃n]
dative	cù	[kˈu]	coin	[kˈɔ̃Nˈ]
vocative	a choin!	[ə xɔ̃n]	a chona!	[ə xɔ̃nɔ̃]

This, of course, is also reflected in the place-names containing irregular substantives.

Sloc nan Con ‘gully of dogs’ [slɔ̃xk nə ɲg̊ˈɔ̃Nˈ]

7.5.1.6 Inflexion

The G declension system is irregular and complex. There are six types of declension for nouns in the singular, each with a number of subdivisions, and five types of declension for nouns in the plural, also with subdivisions.²⁰²

²⁰¹See R. A. V. Cox, 1987:109.

²⁰²C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1937:160–167, provides detailed information on declension.

7.5.2 Adjective

“The adjective is inflected in case, gender and number when used as an attribute after a substantive.”²⁰³

	m		f	
	sg.	pl.	sg.	pl.
nominative	radical	radical★	lenition	radical
genitive	lenition	radical	radical	radical
dative	lenition	radical★	lenition	radical

★ Lenition if preceding substantive ends in a palatal consonant.

Depending on the gender of the noun the following adjective can be changed.

<i>Am Bàgh Dubh</i>	[ə m ,b̥aɣ 'd̥uʰ]	<i>A' Chuidh' Dhubh</i>	[ə ,xui 'ɾu]
<i>An Sloc Mór</i>	[ə n ,slɔxk 'mo:r]	<i>A' Bheinn Mhór</i>	[ə ,vøi 'vo:r]
<i>Am Port Bàn</i>	[ə m ,p'ɔʃt'ʰb̥a:n]	<i>A' Phalla Bhàn</i>	[ə ,falə 'v̥ã:n]

Vocalic mutations in the declension of adjectives occur frequently.

nom.	gen.		
		<i>An t-Allt Ruadh</i>	<i>Caolas a' Bhogh' Ruaidh</i>
[Ruəɾ]	[ruəj]	[ə 'Naʉltə Ruəɾ]	[,k'ʌ:ləs ə ,vogə 'ruəj]
		<i>An Geata Geal</i>	<i>Bogh' an Taigh Ghil</i>
[ġ'æL]	[jil']	[ə ,ŋġ'æʰtə 'ġ'æL]	[,b̥o n ,t'ø 'jil']
		<i>An Lón Beag</i>	<i>Carraig Chaluim Bhig</i>
[b̥øk]	[vik]	[ə ,lɔn 'b̥øk]	[k'aRik ,x'aləm 'vik]

7.6 Summary

The examination of English, Gaelic and Norse generics in particular geographic areas draws the following picture. Whereas a superficial glance at the OS map gives the impression that most names are of ON origin, a detailed survey reveals that microtoponymy is strongly influenced by Gaelic.

ON dominates in terms for large and medium-sized islands and sea-rocks, and G words for small islands and underwater features, such as *sgeir* and *bogha*, are merely loanwords derived from ON. Shore-terminology is largely influenced by G,

²⁰³C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1987:173.

although some ON words have been borrowed into G to supplement the vocabulary describing bays and beach-rocks. Names for bay-shaped features include generics from both ON and G, but whereas G dominates in terminology for straits, small bays and gullies, it is gaelicised words of ON, and in one case Eng./Lat., origin which provide the entire range of names for landing-places. Freshwater features are almost entirely G. The most prominent relief features carry ON names, but almost every generic describing medium-sized or smaller hills is G. Names for summits, single rocks and hollows draw their generics from a wide range of G vocabulary which, with the exception of ON *dalr*, covers the entire range of terms for valleys. A fairly even balance of ON and G is apparent in words for slopes and mounds.

Generics for promontories, however, present a different picture. Although ON provides some terms for headlands, with *nes* featuring extensively in names of Barra's promontories, the G terms *àird*, *rubha* and *gob* cover a wider range of features. The most prominent and, in nautical terms, important, frequently used names of headlands contain generics that have been anglicised.

Place-name generics used in the context of crofting feature some G terms, but the vast majority of loanwords originate in English, with the exception of a few, very popular ON terms. In generics indicating kinds of level or neutral areas, G dominates over ON. This also applies to generics indicating vegetation.

Eng. is most influential in the shared category of settlement and construction, mainly due to the inclusion of mapped features relating to church property and infrastructure. G provides generics for housing and defence sites, borrowing words from ON and Eng. to supplement its vocabulary. As many settlements in Barra have been given names inspired by nearby natural features or enclosures, there are few conventional settlement generics. Nonetheless, the four major ON settlement generics as identified by Nicolaisen²⁰⁴ can be found on Barra.

The analysis of aliases reveals that the categories of full/partial translation show the strongest degree of language contact. In full or partial translation, names of ON origin which form part of a new name as ex-nomine units remain untranslated. This is the case in *Cornaig Bay*. In its G parallel form *Bàgh Chòrnaig* however, the ON ex-nomine unit is subject to lenition.

Unrelated aliases are often drawn from different languages. This is the case in *Upper* and *Lower Bruernish* which G native speakers call *Cnoc nan Caorach* and *Rubha Chàrnain*, respectively. Although Bruernish is known for its comparatively high influx of non-Gaelic speakers, there are other areas, too, in which the same

²⁰⁴See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1976a:86-97.

process may be observed.

The sections on aspects of phonology and morphology aim to give a general idea of the complexity of G, but also consider the other languages involved in Barra's place-names. It is particularly the phenomenon of lenition that affects ON place-names, and obscures the identification of initial letters. This is reflected in the name *Háwshǔm*²⁰⁵ from McDonald's collection of non-Gaelic place-names in Mingulay,²⁰⁶ in which the forms *Sáwshǔm* and *Táwshǔm* are listed as possible alternatives.

²⁰⁵See appendix A, name 107.

²⁰⁶See A. McDonald, 1903:433.

8 Barra Place-Names: Past, Present and Future

8.1 General Observations

A straightforward, practical approach to place naming is apparent in the nomenclature of Barra in which associative and descriptive names dominate. The relatively high level of incident names at 5% could be linked to the islanders' rich tradition in storytelling and interest in fates of both people and animals. Surprisingly for this catholic stronghold, the place-names contain hardly any saints' names, a sign that work-life and religious welfare were treated as separate issues.

The composition pattern of syntax shows a high ratio of primary complex-names and simple-names, which together account for more than three quarters of local place-names. Secondary and tertiary compound-names occur considerably less frequently. Personal names occur in 15% of place-names and generally indicate frequent usage rather than ownership. Names containing opaque elements amount to just over 8%.

The strong influence of ON as observed in place-names on large scale maps is not paralleled at a detailed level. The overwhelming majority of microtoponymics are of G origin. In this respect, Borgstrøm's assumption that a detailed analysis of Barra's nomenclature would reveal a large number of further ON place-names²⁰⁷ cannot be confirmed. ON dominates in the names of the highest mountains and in names for reefs and islands. It is as influential as G in terms for bay-shaped features, but serves merely as a donor language for loanwords to supplement the existing G terminology for shore-features such as beach rocks and landing-places. G dominates in names of all fresh-water features and also has a strong presence in terms for medium-sized hills and for hollows. The frequency of ON and G in names for promontories is evenly balanced, with anglicised parallel names for the most prominent locations. A number of G loanwords for crofting are based on Eng., and a few frequently used ones on ON. In terms for man-made constructions Eng. shows its strongest influence.

Both morphology and phonology indicate that ON names form an integral part of Barra's nomenclature and that, in a number of cases, they are embedded beyond recognition. English has influenced the names of the economic centres, and is used on maps to describe a number of infrastructure features.

Assessing the level of 'Norseness' in Hebridean place-names is a risky undertaking, as it is up to the individual researcher to decide how to evaluate the status of

²⁰⁷See C. Hj. Borgstrøm, 1936:295.

loanwords and ON ex-nomine units in G place-names. Their inclusion or exclusion can cause considerable variation in the results. Instead of presenting possibly misleading statistics, this thesis aims to point out general tendencies.

Although the Western Isles were surveyed at a comparatively late stage, Barra's place-names are relatively well preserved. This is partly due to the fact that Gaelic with its wide range of phonemes is capable of preserving ON names. Secondly, Barra Gaelic, which is considered conservative, has not changed rapidly but has retained its phonemic shape of words and names through the centuries.²⁰⁸ Nevertheless, sound reductions have taken place and a number of sounds in originally ON place-names have been rendered unrecognisable.

The forced clearances of the 19th century, subsequent resettlement schemes, and most of all the desertion of satellite islands at the beginning of the 20th century have taken their toll on place-names. The southern and northern satellites contain hardly any place-names other than for the highest mountains and for coastal features. The interiors of these islands are largely devoid of names. Fr. Allan McDonald's list of non-Gaelic place-names of Mingulay gives some idea of the web of names that must once have covered the satellite. The population density, no doubt, has a strong influence on how intensively the land is cultivated, and the decline in the group's population, from over 2200 inhabitants in the second half of the 19th century to almost half of that number at the end of the 20th century, cannot be ignored. On mainland Barra, too, there are less well-covered areas, such as the territory between Grean and the common grazing of Ardveenish, where the inhabitants have moved or passed away and taken with them their place-names.

The craze for anglicisation of G place-names in the 1870s by the Admiralty has, in some cases, been reversed and the older G names revived. The latest edition of the OS Landranger series, published in 1997, however, gives gaelicised versions of every place-name on the Barra Isles, even those which are unmistakably of ON origin, and which from the earliest historical records onwards have been constant in pronunciation and spelling. It can only be hoped that the OS will reconsider its approach for future editions and treat the place-names and the historical heritage of the area with more respect.

8.2 Relative Chronology

Due to the lack of early documentary sources the dating of place-names is difficult. Therefore, only relative chronological sequence can be established, except for the

²⁰⁸See M. Oftedal, 1955:110.

few datable events that inspired place-name creation. There is no doubt that Barra was inhabited before the arrival of the Norwegians, but as there is no linguistic evidence of a pre-Norse place-names stratum the Norse immigration during the ninth century provides the earliest onomastic evidence.

I agree with Nicolaisen²⁰⁹ and WAUGH²¹⁰ that natural features will have been named before settlements and other artificial constructions. Subdivision of settlements will have taken place at a relatively late stage. An example of an uncompounded place-name as a sign of first naming²¹¹ is *Uidh* in Vatersay from ON *eið*, 'isthmus'. This same element can also be found in the names of two settlements on Skye, in an old farm-name in Shetland, and in numerous sites in Norway. *Bac* from ON *bakki*, 'slope', at the west side of Barra serves also as a village name in Lewis. There is also a *Back* in Shetland, and several occurrences in Norway. Further uncompounded place-names of ON origin include *Borve*, *Sheader*²¹² and *Cuier*, all of which have equivalents in other Hebridean islands, Orkney, Shetland and Scandinavia. Each of the large settlement generics identified by NICOLAISEN²¹³ has also been productive in Barra. The examples of *An Garrabost*, *Husabost* as part of *Abhainn Husabost*, and *Suinsibost*²¹⁴ originate from ON *bólstaðr*, 'farm-stead', a well-established ON settlement generic which, in the form *-bost*, has also been productive on Lewis and Skye. *Melast*, 'sea-links stead', possibly contains the ON generic *staðir*, which indicates an early stage of settlement. The Sandray place-name *Sheader* is based on ON *setr*, 'shieling', which has parallels in other Hebridean place-names and leads back to the coastal district between Fjordane, Møre and Trøndelag²¹⁵ in south-west Norway, which accommodates a high ratio of names containing this element.

Only a few place-names contain hints pointing at datable events such as shipwrecks. *Bealach Dhuggain*, 'Fr. Duggan's pass', designates a mountain pass connecting Craigston with the east coast. Fr. DERMOT DUGGAN, who worked in Barra from 1652 until 1657, is said to have taken this route frequently in order to conduct service in the villages at Barra's east side. *Port na Teileagraf* identifies the location where the telegraph cable enters Barra soil. This name must be a post-1884 creation as this was the year that the link was established.

The island of *Muldoanich*, located at the entrance of Castle Bay, is one of the few places in Barra whose name has a good historical record.

²⁰⁹See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1979-80:112.

²¹⁰See D. Waugh, 1985:4.

²¹¹See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1979-80:112.

²¹²On Sandray.

²¹³See W. F. H. Nicolaisen 1979-80:105-121 and 1976:84-120.

²¹⁴See appendix A, name 114. *Suinsibost* is located on Mingulay.

²¹⁵See W. F. H. Nicolaisen, 1979-80:108.

1549	<i>Scarpanamutt</i>
1654	<i>Scarpa</i>
1794	<i>Muldonich</i> or <i>Deer Island</i>
1823	<i>Muldoanich</i>
1824	<i>Mul Donich</i>
1848	<i>Muldonish</i>
1865	<i>Muldoanich I.</i>
1971	<i>Muldoanich</i>

Despite this list of historical forms, there is no explanation for name change from *Scarpa* to *Muldonich* or *Deer Island*.

The Castle Bay area itself presents a more difficult exercise in establishing chronological order. Historical records provide the 1549 entry *Kiselnin* and the 1695 version *Kisimul* meaning ‘rock of the small bay’, which doubtless designates the bay surrounding the rock on which the castle is placed. The name *Castle Bay*, as listed in WILSON’s gazetteer, was first located north-west of Muldoanich at the entrance of the bay but has gradually moved closer to the castle. DONALD MACAULAY, a contributor to IAN A. FRASER’s collection of Barra place-names in 1976, refers to the castle rock as *A’ Steinn*, ‘the rock’, and to the bay between the castle and Ledaig as *Bàgh a’ Steinn*. *Castlebay*, the name for the settlement, is inspired by the natural feature by which it is located. Locals, however, remember the older name *Baile Mhic Néill*, ‘MacNeil’s village’, which is also listed in Dwelly’s dictionary of 1901. The other settlement names in the Castle Bay area are *Garrygall*, *Leadaig*, *Glen*, *Rhue* and *Horough*. Lying at the extreme south end of the bay the oldest of these settlement is *Horough*, from ON *hōrgr*, ‘pile of stones’, traditionally describing an important site of pagan worship. The name *Castlebay* and its G parallel name *Bàgh a’ Chaisteil* can be expected to be comparatively recent creations.

A site in Skallary which MacLean marked as *An Gearraidh Ùr*, ‘the new enclosure’ in 1823, is nowadays known as *Seann Fhaing*, the ‘old enclosure’.

Very rarely has one place three parallel names, all deriving from different languages but all with the same meaning. The name *Stoney Bay* is an 1874 AD listing for a beach at the north-west coast of Scurrival. The OS recorded *Bàgh nan Clach*, ‘bay of stones’, for their six-inch edition, and locals, who were surprised at the OS and AD forms, know this place as *Mol Sgurabhail*, ‘shingly beach of Scurrival’.

8.3 Future Research

Only 20% of the place-names in this collection have been mapped or have occurred in other historical documents. The remaining 80% of place-names were provided by local informants. In what way their knowledge of formerly non-recorded material will continue to be passed on to future generations entirely depends on the local population of Barra and Vatersay.

English has, since the writing of the first Statistical Account, gained an increasing influence on the Island and is now the language of discourse of the younger generation. Because place-names survive as onomastic units irrespective of transparent or opaque meaning, Gaelic names will certainly continue being used for some time even in an increasingly English speaking environment. In the past this has also been the case with Norse place-names in Barra, which still survive despite the fact that Norse had largely fallen out of use by the 14th century. English, however, does pose a threat to the existing stratum of place-names on Barra. English does not have as high a number of phonemes as Gaelic, and for that reason it is not possible to incorporate Gaelic names into English conversation to the same extent that Gaelic is able to incorporate Old Norse names. Gaelic microtoponymics which are nowadays known to only one or two locals will no doubt be lost from oral tradition in the foreseeable future.

In this project the emphasis was on collecting as many place-names as possible from oral sources, placing them on the map as accurately as sources permitted, and backing them up with historical evidence, oral and written. Due to time restrictions, possibly relevant material collected by John L. Campbell and Margaret Fay Shaw in the 1930s, and now held by the archive of the National Trust for Scotland in Canna House, could not be included.

The gazetteer in the fourth chapter is an attempt at archiving the collected place-names material. In due course the information therein will be transferred to the Scottish Place-Names Database and made accessible to a wide audience. A gazetteer, however, is by no means the most user-friendly option for presenting the collected material as it shows the names in isolation. An atlas including all formerly unmapped place-names would help visualise the names in a geographic context and show the extent of local contributions towards this project.

Harris pupils carried out a project during which they recorded the place-names of their parents' and grand-parents' crofts. Such a project could also be undertaken on Barra, and would encourage a sense of local identity and an interest in local history among the younger generation.

Often my initial visit to a informant family would encourage the participants to collect further names, sometimes with help of friends and neighbours. Regular visits over a number of weeks and, most effectively, walks in the area of interest produced very good results particularly in respect of gathering microtoponymics.

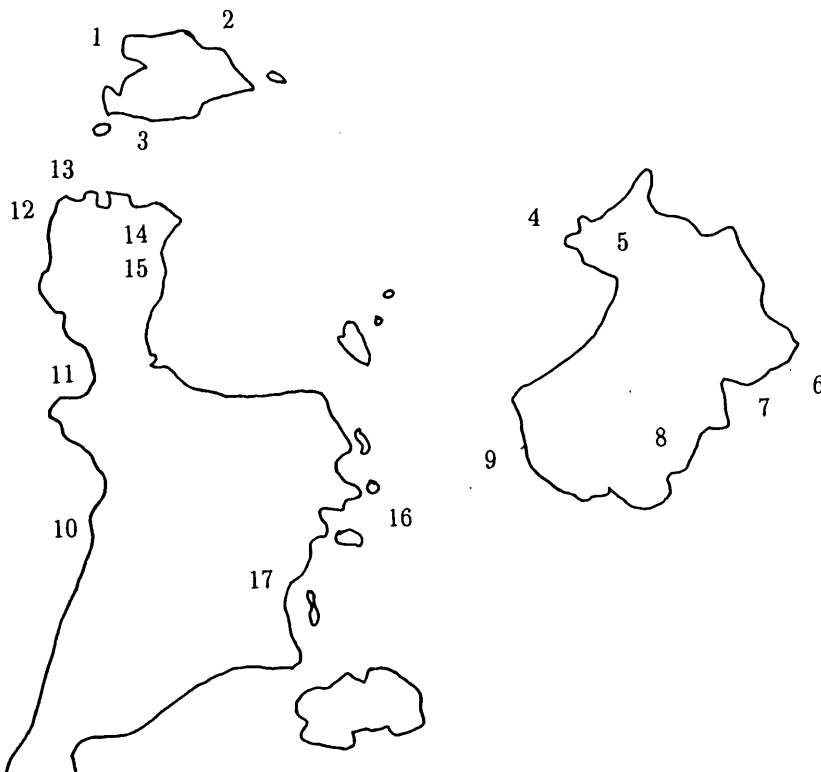
Place-name research is an ongoing process, and, no doubt, locals will have remembered many more names since my last visit to the island. Therefore it would be wrong to assume that this thesis is the last word on the place-names of Barra. It is more a process of stock-taking. As long as Barra and Vatersay are inhabited place-names will be needed and, as required, new names will be coined.



A Uncertain Names

In a number of cases the spelling of place-names could not be clearly identified on maps, whilst in others locations could not be determined to sufficient accuracy. Such place-names are not included in the gazetteer but are listed in this section. Unidentified letters are marked ‘_’; uncertain forms are marked ‘?’. In most cases the numbers of the names listed below may be traced on the map. Where a listed name has no map number, this indicates that its location was vague and consequently the name can only be associated with a larger area such as a township or an island.

Barra: Eoligaray (EOL), including Fiaray (FIA) and Fuday (FUD)



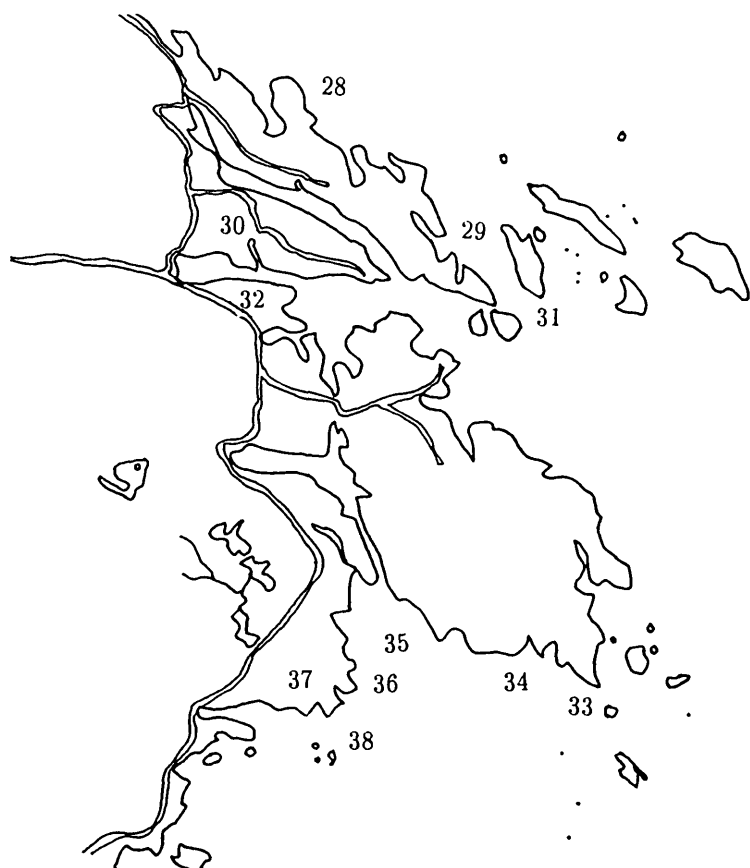
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. Slockghrigeo (FIA) | ML 1823 | 10. Slacnacreagh (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 2. Slocilanduilik (FIA) | ML 1823 | 11. Knockl_isk (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 3. Portan__umpan (FIA) | ML 1823 | 12. Mealnahoa (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 4. Ardvuran (FUD) | ML 1823 | 13. Slockchrasigeo (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 5. Ardli_anish (FUD) | ML 1823 | 14. Drumnacaran (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 6. Runacragamull (FUD) | ML 1823 | 15. Lodanmore (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 7. Craignagainacha (FUD) | ML 1823 | 16. Craichd (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 8. Craignascra (FUD) | ML 1823 | 17. Tuirk (EOL) | ML 1823 |
| 9. Poidhuick (FUD) | ML 1823 | | |

Gighay (GIG), Hellisay (HEL), Flodday (FLN), Fuiay (FUI)



18. Slockninullay (GIG)	ML 1823	23. Runamulan	ML 1823	(FLN or FUI)
19. Cragancor (GIG)	ML 1823	24. Ellenhun?i?h (FUI)	ML 1823	east side
20. Slockanambeg (HEL)	ML 1823	25. Cregnabioler (FUI)	ML 1823	south side
21. Skerlia (HEL)	ML 1823	26. Skerdonaig (FUI)	ML 1823	west side
22. Meallanleaig (HEL)	ML 1823	27. Runamona (FUI)	ML 1823	north-east side

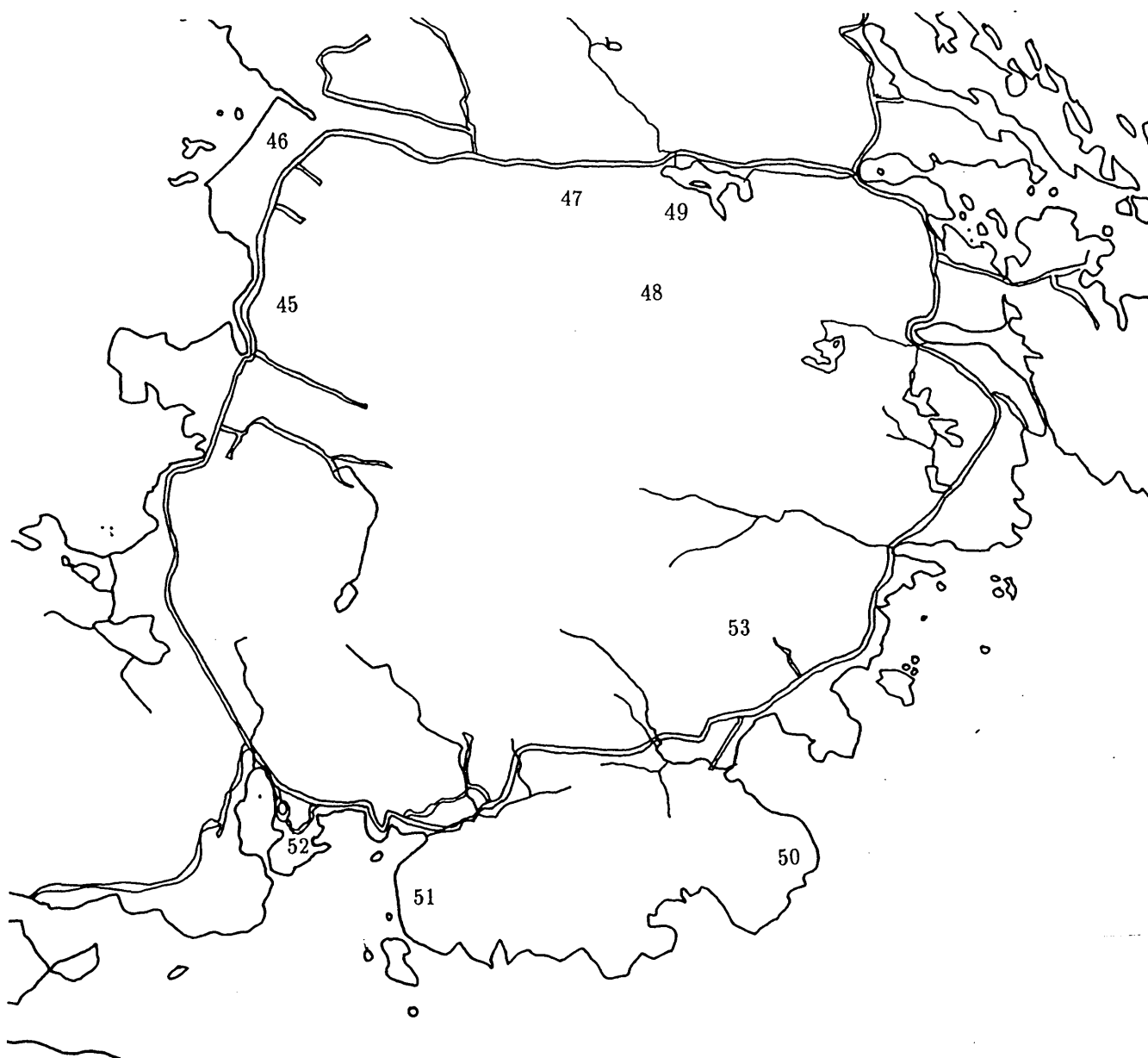
Barra: Ardmhór (ADM), Northbay (NOR), Ardveenish (ADV), Bruernish (BRU), Bolnabodach (BNB)



28. Runaceapan (ADM)	ML 1823
29. Ellendnanaing (ADM)	ML 1823
30. Banani__ga?na (ADV)	ML 1823
31. Lamalumveg (ADM)	ML 1823
32. Runaleish (NOR)	ML 1823
33. Ellenanmighn (BRU)	ML 1823
34. Skerava_oa (BRU)	ML 1823
35. Portnannuigh (BRU)	ML 1823
36. Portantow (BNB)	ML 1823
37. Knockacadan (BNB)	ML 1823
38. Ellenvurlie (BNB)	ML 1823

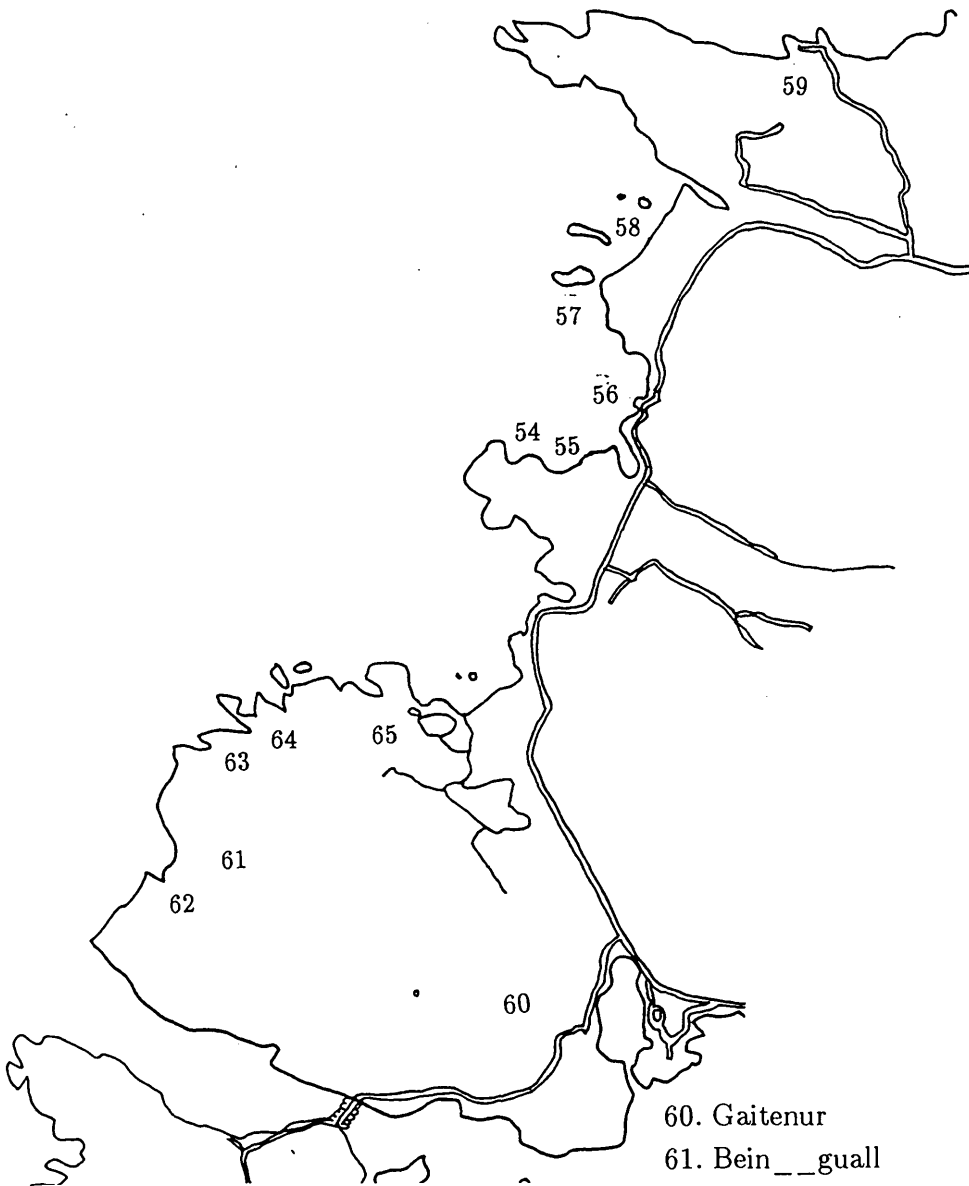
Barra: Interior

39. Cnocan	CR 1865	settlement name
40. Garranacloich	CR	settlement name
41. Glachd Ruadh	CR	settlement name
42. Gearrnahasnick	CR 1806	settlement name
43. Langinish	CR 1820	settlement name, probably close to Craigston or Borge
44. Iollaghrigsaidh	CR 1814	settlement name
45. Griluachbrack	ML 1823	certainly related to Garraidh Luachrach
46. Mollmore	ML 1823	
47. Beinhirimister	ML 1823	
48. Amhiuanlium	ML 1823	river name
49. ?Leachuanion	ML 1823	
50. Monachhuilachlin	ML 1823	east coast
51. Carnachbuie	ML 1823	east coast
52. Ruveallart	ML 1823	east coast
53. Cregvore	ML 1823	east coast



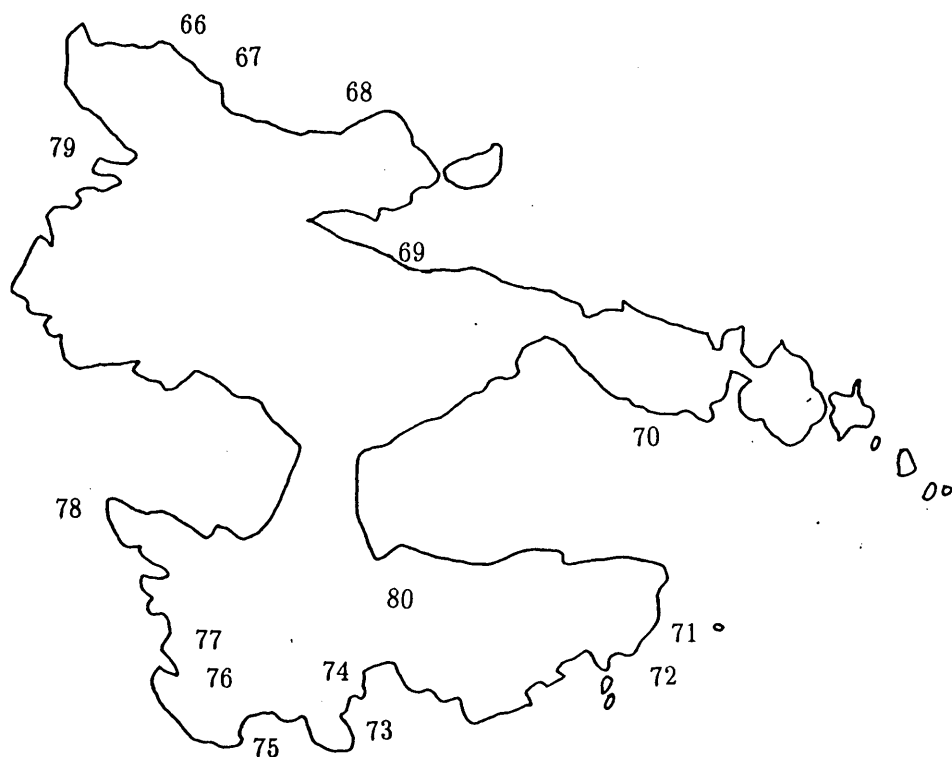
Barra: Ben Tangaval, Tangusdale, Cleat

54. Tribiar	ML 1823	north shore of Bruach Bearnasdale
55. Carach	ML 1823	north shore of Bruach Bearnasdale
56. Slockacharich	ML 1823	
57. Sker?m?n?i?o?nliagh	ML 1823	
58. H_m_lisker	ML 1823	possibly Himalisgeir?
59. Cuivall	ML 1823	



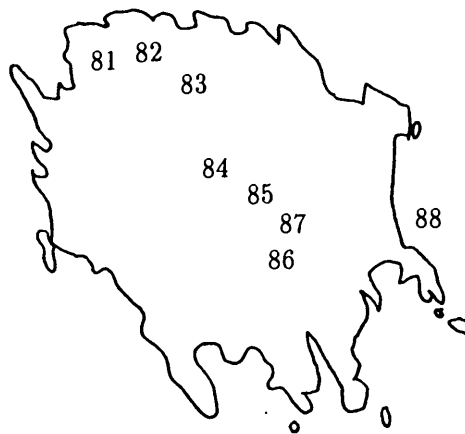
60. Gaitenur	ML 1823
61. Bein__guall	ML 1823
62. Vavaihalam	ML 1823
63. Slockanial	ML 1823
64. Slockachiran	ML 1823
65. Creganagharbhalich	ML 1823

Vatersay



66. Portabham	ML 1823	north side
67. Cregnascad	ML 1823	north side
68. Portvaladin	ML 1823	
69. Ruan_oil	ML 1823	south coast of Bàgh Chornaig
70. Skerseralan	ML 1823	<i>Uidh</i> area
71. Slock?liegeo	ML 1823	ravine at Am Meall, south east side
72. Slockanuadhio	ML 1823	ravine at Am Meall, south east side
73. Bealchra_rick	ML 1823	location NL6393, east of Heillanish
74. Glacknasken_(?a)	ML 1823	south-west
75. Scara?i?d/Scara?u?l	ML 1823	south-west
76. Cuiharich	ML 1823	south-west
77. Ruillibrick	ML 1823	certainly related to Ben Rulibreck, but Beinruillibrick is listed separately in ML 1823.
78. Haillishoove	ML 1823	possibly at NL620948
79. Ruringeo	ML 1823	possibly close to Rubha Brinigeo at NL615959
80. ?D-/?Boanhill	ML 1823	

Sandray

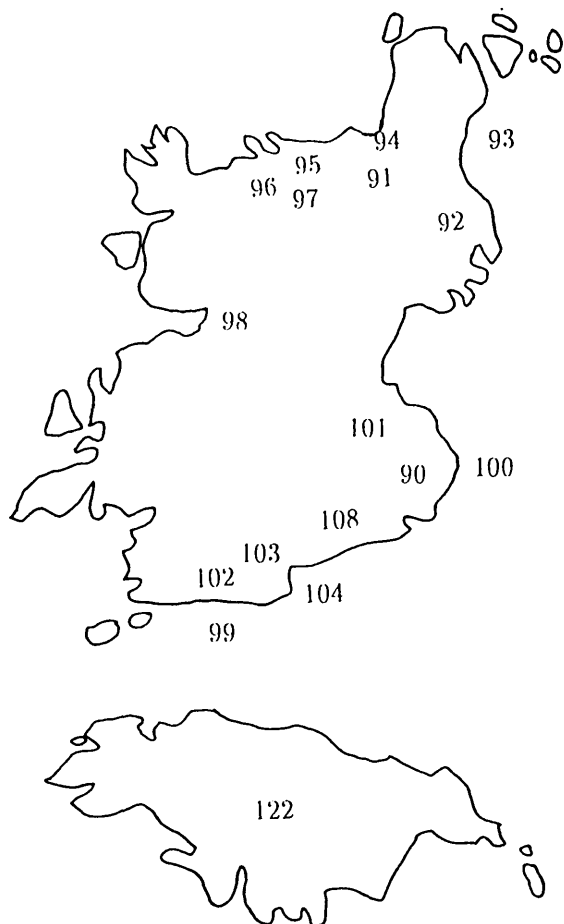


- | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--|
| 81. Glackghlass | ML 1823 | |
| 82. Glackanlioman | ML 1823 | |
| 83. Slockaneich | ML 1823 | |
| 84. Carnvieniel | ML 1823 | spelling unclear |
| 85. Glackarihriman | ML 1823 | |
| 86. Glenia_i_ | ML 1823 | spelling doubtful |
| 87. Seumpannaqu(i)alla | ML 1823 | spelling doubtful, alias for Gleann Mór |
| 88. Cuighlamin | ML 1823 | |
| 89. Uamh Gharsa | CW114/2 | p. 68f., the cave is supposed to be located at west end of the beach and connected to a Pabbay by a tunnel |

Mingulay

- | | | |
|------------------|----------|---|
| 90. Garyaphuim | ML 1823 | located between the Landing Place and Geodhachan |
| 91. Bein_chua | ML 1823 | alias for <i>MacPhee's Hill</i> , spelling unclear |
| 92. Gist | AMD 1903 | ['gist], possibly in area NL5783. |
| 93. Sūnadu | AMD 1903 | ['sunadu], related to <i>Bàgh Hunadu</i> |
| 94. Brándalip | AMD 1903 | possibly in NL5684, south-west of Analepp |
| 95. Sōālīp | AMD 1903 | possibly in NL5684, south-west of Brándalip |
| 96. Clet Iuglais | AMD 1903 | NL565845, location certain, spelling unclear. |
| 97. Hōnna | AMD 1903 | or Sōnna, or Tōnna, possibly located between Analepp and Guarsay |
| 98. Aoinig | AMD 1903 | [u:nik], designates either Carnan or Tom a' Mhaide |
| 99. Hemmish | AMD 1903 | or Semmish, or Temmish (there is Sgeir Remmish), possibly south side of Mingulay. |
| 100. Hó-ā-ret | AMD 1903 | or Tó-ā-ret, or Só-ā-ret, (see Sow-sēret or Sows-aret), possibly located at <i>Cladach Dhearg</i> , NL5782. |
| 101. Hílibrick | AMD 1903 | likely to a name of a hill, south side of Mingulay Village |

- | | | | |
|------|-------------|----------|--|
| 102. | Grăn | AMD 1903 | possibly located in NL5581. |
| 103. | Tremmis-geo | AMD 1903 | possibly located in NL5681. |
| 104. | Yōh-ri | AMD 1903 | possibly located in NL5681. |
| 105. | Gūnarsay | AMD 1903 | (see Catarsay and Guarsay), not an island. |
| 106. | Lāikigeo | AMD 1903 | (diphthong) |
| 107. | Háwshūm | AMD 1903 | or Sávshūm, or Táwshūm. |
| 108. | Grēotas | AMD 1903 | NL591871 |
| 109. | Rów-rye | AMD 1903 | (ow like in down), or Trow-rye, or Srow-rye. |



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| 110. | Căhăs-dal | AMD 1903 |
| 111. | Clet Annsa | AMD 1903 |
| 112. | Alăvi | AMD 1903 |
| 113. | Sheōw-a-dal | AMD 1903 |
| 114. | Sūinsibost | AMD 1903 |
| 115. | Orăcri | AMD 1903 |
| 116. | Ugráiny | AMD 1903 |
| 117. | Líanacui | AMD 1903 |
| 118. | Sówseret | AMD 1903 |
| 119. | Sūnăgir | AMD 1903 |
| 120. | Ho-isp | AMD 1903 |
| 121. | Heclaveg | ML 1823 |

Berneray

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|------|-----------|---------|----------------------|
| 122. | Breaholum | ML 1823 | name in the interior |
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B Glossary of Generics

The generics are listed according to the language in which they occur. Words marked by * are loan-words and have a different origin to the category in which they occur. Where possible, the gender is stated. In the sections of G and of ON names the third column shows the endings for genitive and for plural cases. When only one form is given it is the genitive case unless stated otherwise.

B.1 Gaelic

abhainn	(f)	aibhne	stream, river
acarsaid*	(f)	pl. -ean	anchorage (see ON akkeris-sæti)
àird	(f)	àirde	height, promontory
àirigh	(f)	-e, -ean	summer residence for herdsmen and cattle, hill pasture, level green among hills
allt	(m)	uillt	mountain stream, rill, brook
altair*	(f)	-air, -raichean	high place (Lat. altare)
amhach	(f)	-aich, -aichean	neck
aonach	(m)	-aich, -aichean	steep height, hill, plateau
bac*	(m)	-a, -an	hollow, pit, bog, bank (see ON bakki)
bàgh*	(m)	bàigh, -an	bay, harbour (see ON vágr and ON vík)
baile	(m)	pl. bailtean	village, hamlet, home, farm
bealach	(m)	-aich, -aichean	pass or gorge of a mountain, glen, gap, breach in a wall or a fence
beannachaidh*	(m)		blessing (Lat. benedictio)
beinn	(f)	beinne, beanntan	mountain, pinnacle
beul	(m)	gen., pl. beòil	mouth, opening
blianag	(f)		green level spot of land
bodach	(m)	-aich	old man, here: stone
bogach	(m)	-aich, -aichean	swamp, quagmire (related to Eng. bow)
bogha*	(m)	pl. -chan	rock sunk under the sea (see ON boði)
bonnach*	(m)	-aich	cake, here: round rock (Sco. bannock, Lat. panicum)
bot	(m)	-a, -an	river bank, mound
bràthair	(m)	-bràthar, bràithrean	brother, here: twin rock (Lat. frater)
bruach	(f)	-aich, -aichean	bank, edge (related to Eng. brow)
bruthach	(m, f)	-aich, -aichean	ascent, steep hill-side, brae
buaile	(f)	pl. buailtean	fold for sheep
bun	(m)	pl. buin	mouth of a river, bottom, base

bùth★	(m)	bùthan, -annan	shop, tent, booth (see ON buð)
bùthag			potato pit (Barra usage)
cacheaileith	(f)	-e, -ean	gate
cadha	(m)		opening where wind comes through, narrow pass at a foot of a mountain, narrow ravine
caigeann	(f)	-inn, caignichean	pairing, rough mountain pass
cailleach	(f)	-iche, -an	old woman, here: rock (OIr. the veiled one, Lat. pallium)
caisteal★	(m)	-eil, -an	bulwark, castle (Lat. castellum)
camus	(m)	-uis	bay, creek, harbour
caolas	(m)	-ais, -an	firth, strait
caraidh	(f)		fish trap
càrn★	(m)	càirn, cùirn	heap or pile of stones, rock, sledge (see Sco. cairn)
càrnach	(m)		stony ground
carragh	(f)	-aigh, -aighean	pillar, erect stone
carraig	(f)	-e, -ean	fishing-rock, cliff, promontory, headland
ceann	(m)	cinn	point, top, promontory, headland
cearcall★	(m)	-aill, -an	hoop (from Lat. circulus)
ceàrdach	(f)	-aich, -aichean	smithy
cidhe★	(m)	cidheachan	quay (from Eng.)
ceum	(m)	céim, ceuman	step, path
cill★	(f)	-e, cill(t)ean	cell, church, chapel, burying-ground, grave (from Lat. cella)
cìrean	(m)	cìrein, -an	crest, cock's comb
clach	(f)	cloiche, clachan	stone
cladach	(m)	-aich, -ean	shore, beach, coast
cleit★	(f)	-e, -ean	rock (see ON klettr)
cnap★	(m)	-aip, -an	knob, lump, little hill (see ON knappr)
cnoc	(m)	cnuic, cnocan	hill, eminence
coille	(f)	pl. coilltean	wood, forest, grove
coire	(m)	pl. -achan	kettle, circular hollow surrounded by hills, mountain dell
comharradh	(m)		mark
conasg	(m)	-aisg	gorse
corran	(m)	-ain	headland, sickle, here a shallow
cotan★	(m)	cotain	small fold for a calf (from Eng. cottage)
crannag	(f)	-aig, -an	fortified island, partly built on man made foundation

craobh	(f)	-aoibhe, -an	tree, bush
creag	(f)	-eige, -an	rock, hill, cliff, quarry (related to Eng. crag)
criathrach	(m)	-aich, -aichean	wilderness, swamp
crioch	(f)	-ìche, -an	boundary
croit*	(f)	-e, -ean	from Eng. croft
cruach*	(f)	-aiche, -an	pile, heap, stack of peats (see ON hrúga)
cuidh*	(f)	-e, -ein	enclosure, pen (see ON kv'í)
cùil	(f)	-e, -tean	corner, closet, any enclosed place
curach	(f)	-aich, -ean	marsh, fen, bog
cuarraidh*			quarry (from Eng.)
dám*	(m)	dáim	reservoir, conduit, black mud, dam (from Eng.)
dìg*	(f)	-e, -eachan	wall of loose stone (Sco./ Eng. dyke)
dòirlinn	(f)	-e, -ean	isthmus, peninsula, stony part of the shore
dòrn	(m)	dùirn	fist-sized pebble, also: short cut
drochaid	(f)	-e, -ean	bridge
druim	(m)	droma	ridge
dùn	(m)	dùin, dùin	heap, hillock, mound, fortress, castle
eas	(m)	-a, -an	waterfall, cataract
eilean*	(m)	-ein, -an	island, islet (from ON eyland, ON øy)
fang*	(f)	fainge, -an	sheep pen, fold (from Sco. fank)
fadhail*	(f)	fadhail	extensive beach, ford, space between islands (see ON vaðill)
feadan	(m)		reed, canal, opening
fèith	(f)	-e, -ean	vein, underground channel, bog-stream
fideag	(f)	-eige, -an	reed
fuaran	(m)	-ain, -an	well
geadhail*	(f)		ploughed field, park (from Eng. get)
gàradh*	(m)	-aidh, -aidhean	dyke, enclosure (see ON gerði)
gearraidh*	(m)		green pasture-land about a township, fenced fields, enclosed grazing, point or knuckle-end of a township (see garðr)
geata*	(m)		gate (from Eng.)
geòdha*	(m)	pl. -chan	gully, chasm (see ON gjá)
glaic	(f)	glaice, -ean	hollow valley, narrow valley
gleann	(m)	glinne, glinn	valley
glumag	(f)	-aig, -an	puddle, deep hole or pool
gnob*	(m)	pl. -an	hill (see ON knappr)
gob	(m)	guib	mouth, point
goirtean*	(m)	-ein, goirteinean	little cornfield, enclosure, park, small patch of arable land (Lat. hortus, Eng. garden)

gualann	(f)	–ainn, guailnean	shoulder, elbow, corner of a mountain
innis	(f)	innse, innsean	sheltered valley, island, pasture
iolla			fishing rock covered at high tide
iodhlann	(f)	pl. –an	circle, enclosure, corn yard
iomair	(m)	–ean	field, ridge of land
lag	(m)	luig, lagan	hollow (between two knolls), pit, cave
laogh	(m)	–aoigh, laoghan	calf, friend
làimhrig*	(f)	–ean	(natural) landing-place, quay, harbour, shore (from ON hlað-hamarr)
leabaidh	(f)	leapa, leapaichean	bed, couch
leac	(f)	lice, leacan	flat stone, tombstone, ledge of a rock
leacach	(f)	–aich, –ean	bare summit of a hill
	(m)	–aich, –ean	side of a hill
lèana	(m)	–n	meadow, swampy plain, field of luxuriant grass, green
leathad	(m)	–aid, leòidean	slope, side of a hill, half-ridge, brae
léig*	(f)	léige, –ean	marshy or miry pool, shallow stream (from Lat. linquo, Eng. loan)
leth	(m)		half or piece of land
loch	(m)	locha, lochannan	arm of the sea, lake
lón(*)	(m)	–óin, –óintean	meadow, lawn, pond, water, mud
lot*			share, part of the croft (Eng. allotment)
luba	(f)		dub, marsh, pool
lùdag	(f)	–aig, –an	hinge, joint, little finger
machair	(f)	–rach, –raichean	extensive, low-lying, fertile ground
màs	(m)	màis, màsan	hip, buttock, breech
meadhon*	(m)	–oin, –an	middle, centre (from Lat. medianum)
meall	(m)	mill, meallan	great shapeless hill, mound, heap
mòinteach	(f)		bog-moss
mol*	(f)	moil, –an	shingle, shingly beach (see ON mōl)
morghan	(m)		gravel, shingle, pebbly beach
muileann	(m)	–inn, muilnean	mill (from Lat. molina)
mullach	(m)	–aich, –aichean	top, summit, hill
nead*	(m)	nid	nest, circular hollow (from Eng.)
oitir	(f)	–e, –ean	shallow, bank or ridge in the sea
pàirc	(f)	–e, –ean	parc, enclosure, enclosed field
palla*	(m)		ledge, cliff (see ON pallr)
poll	(m)	puill, puill	hole, pit, bog, pool, deep stagnant water, dark and deep part of any stream, wet and miry meadow
port*	(m)	–uirt, –an	port, harbour (OIr. port, Lat. portus)

priosan*	(m)	-ain, -an	prison, gaol, here: rocks (related to OF prison)
raon	(f)	raoin, raontan	field, mossy plain, road, way
rathad*	(m)	rathaid	road, path (from MEng. roade)
réidh	(m)	pl. -ean	plain, meadow, level ground
roc*	(f)	ruic	sunken, tangle-grown rock, here: fold in the sea bed (see ON hrukka)
rodh	(m)	-a	water-edge, water mark
rubha	(m)		point, promontory
seasg	(f)	seisg	bog-reed
seòlaid	(f)		pier, haven
seór*			shore (from Eng.)
sgala			rock, hill
sgàthan	(m)	sgàthain, -an	mirror
sgeir*	(f)	-e, -ean	rock in the sea, sometimes covered by tides (see ON sker)
sgòr*	(m)	-òir, -an	sharp, steep hill rising by itself, little precipitous height on another hill, peak, pinnacle (see ON skør)
sgùd	(m)	sgùid, -an	cluster
sgùmban			hill, top of a hill
sgùrr*	(m)	-a, -an	high, sharp-pointed hill (related to ON skør)
sìthean	(m)	-ein, -an	little hill, fairy hill
sliabh	(m)	sléibhe, sléibhtean	moorish ground, extended heath
slighe	(f)	pl. -an, -achan	path, track
sloc	(m)	sluic, slocan	pit, den, hollow, grave, pool, ditch, marsh
slugaid	(f)	-e, -ean	quicksand, muddy place, gorge
sòrn	(m)	sùirn	concavity
sròn	(f)	sròine, srònan	nose, promontory, ridge of a hill
sruth	(m)	-an, -annan	river, stream, motion of running water
stalla*	(m)	pl. -chan	overhanging rock, craggy, steep sea rock (see ON stallr)
steall	(f)	steill, still	squirt, cataract, torrent
stéisean*			curing station (from Eng.)
suidhe	(m)	pl. -ain, -achan	seat (O.Ir. suide, related to Lat. sedeo)
sùil	(f)	sùla, sùilean	eye, hole
taigh	(m)	-e, -ean	house
taobh	(m)	taoibh, -an	side, way, place

tìr★	(f)		land, shore, beach, coast (from Lat. terra)
tobar	(m)	-air, tobraichean	well, fountain, spring
tobhta★	(f)		walls of a house, ruin (ON toft, topt)
toll	(m)	tuill, tollan	hole, hollow, cavity, pit, den, cave
tom	(m)	tuim, -an	round hillock or knoll, rising ground, swell, green eminence
tòrr★	(m)	-a, -an	hill, mountain, mound (possibly from Lat. turris)
tràigh	(f)	-e, -ean	sea-shore, sandy beach
tucaid★	(f)	-e, -ean	dove-cot (from Sco. douket)
uachdar	(m)	-air, -an	top, summit, surface, upper part
uaigh	(f)	-e	grave
uamh	(f)	uaimhe, uaimhean	cave
uidh★	(f)	-e, -ean	isthmus (see ON eið)
ùtrathad★	(f)	-aid, -aidean	free road to common pasture (from ON ut-reið, out-road, related to MEng. roade)

B.2 Old Norse

akkeris-sæti	(n)		landing-place
áll	(m)	áls, álar	stripe, stretch
bakki	(m)	bakka, bakkar	bog, marsh, hollow, bank
boði	(m)		breaker, reef
bólstaðr	(m)	bólstaðar, bólstaððir	farm, settlement
borg	(f)	borgar, borgir	fortification
brekka	(f)	brekku, brekkur	slope
bryggja	(f)		quay, bridge
buð	(f)	búðar, búðir	little hut
dalr	(m)	dals, dalar	valley
eið	(f)	eiðs, eiðar	neck of land
eyland	(n)		island
fjall	(n)	gen. fjalls	mountain
garðr	(m)	garðs, garðar	garden
gerði	(n)	gen. gerðis	enclosure
gjá	(f)	gjá, gjá	gully
haugr	(m)	haugs, haugar	hill
haf	(n)		the sea

hlíð	(f)	hlíðar, hlíðir	slope
hlað	(n)		layer
holmr	(m)	holms, holmar	island
hópr	(m)	hóps, dat. hópi	enclosed bay
hóll	(f)	hallar, hallir	mound
hrúga	(f)		heap
hrukka	(f)		fold, wrinkle, heap
hømull	(m)		layer of pebbles, beach stones
høgrgr	(m)	gen. hørgs	place of worship
kista	(f)		pass, narrowing
klettr	(m)	kletts, klettar	hill
knappr	(m)	knapps, knappar	knob
kollr	(m)		rounded top
krókr	(m)	króks, krókar	bend
kví	(f)		enclosure
land	(n)	lands, landi	piece of ground
laupr	(n)	gen. laups	the run (from ON <i>laupa</i> to run)
lein	(f)		mountain side
lón	(f)	gen., pl. lónar	deep, slow-running stream
múli	(m)	múla, múlar	large headland, sea rock
møl	(f)	gen. malar	gravel bed
nes	(n)	ness, nesjar	headland
pallr	(m)		ledge, cliff
pollr	(m)	gen. polls	little round bay
rás	(f)		run of water, rivulet
setr	(n)	setrs, setrar	settlement
sker	(n)	skers	skerry, rock surrounded by water
skør	(f)	skarar	high, sharp-pointed hill
slétta	(f)	sléttu	plain, level piece of ground
staðir	(m)		settlement
stallr	(m)		shelf
steinn	(m)	steins, steinar	stone, prominent little island
støðull	(m)	støðuls, støðlar	milking-place
støng	(f)	stangar, stangir	pole, peninsula
sund	(n)		sound
urð	(f)	urðar, urðir	scree, rocky slope
vágr	(m)	vágs, vágar	small, sheltered bay
vík	(f)	gen. + pl. vikr	bay
vøllr	(m)	vallar, vellir	field
øyr	(f)	gen. + pl. øyjar	island

B.3 Scots

brae	burn	caul(d)	fank
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B.4 English

arch	fort	jetty	point	station
bank	glebe	lagoon	post office	statue
bay	graveyard	landing-place	presbytery	still (?)
calf	harbour	manse	rock	stone
cave	head	mill	school	street
cell	hill	monument	sheep wash	village
chapel	hospital	pen	shieling	wellage
croft	house	pendicle	shoal	
factory	inn	perch	skerry	
fold	isles	pillar	square	

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RH4/23/106	Ordnance Survey Object Name Book, Barra Parish, 1878.
RH21/50/1, 2, 3	Roman Catholic Diocese of Argyll and the Isles records, 1805–1944, Craigston.
VR 103 vol. 1	Valuation Roll 1855–56, County of Inverness, Parish of Barra, Folio 123 + 124.
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OPR 108/1	Old Parish Records: Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths of Protestants in the Parish of Barra, Cuier Church, 1843–1857.
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West Register House, Edinburgh:

RHP 3004	Chart of the Islands of Mingulay and Berneray, no surveyor, no date.
RHP 4171	Plan of the distressed districts of Scotland, including list of proprietors and rentals, surveyor D. W. Martin, lithographers Standidge & Co. London, 1847.
RHP 5237	Plans (4) of proposed boat slips on the island of Vatersay, 1911.
RHP 13179	Sketch plan of Castle Bay, no surveyor, c. 1891.
RHP 13180	Sketch plan of Castlebay Pier, no surveyor, c. 1891.
RHP 35105	Composite OS 6" map (Inverness, sheets LXII, LXIII, part sheets LIV, LV, LIX and LX), of part of the estate of Barra, marked to show acreages and land sold to the Congested District Board, 1901.
RHP 38010/1–2	Plan of the island of Barra, showing part of Eoligarry Estate, coloured to indicate the forshore and the location of major cockle-shell deposits, 1946, traced from OS 6" map.
RHP 44187	Plan of the estate of Barra belonging to John Gordon of Cluny, 1901 or later, surveyor H. Sharbau.

- RHP 44188 OS 6" plan (Hebrides, sheet LXIII), marked to show land at Ard Mhór, and adjacent islets of Garbh Lingay and Lamalum, parts of estate of Eoligaray, 1904 or later.
- RHP 44189 OS. 6" plan marked to show land sold to the Congested Districts Board on the Black Islands and on Fuiay and between Bruernish and Greian Head, 1904 or later.
- RHP 44192 OS 6" plan marked to show property in Castlebay and Orosa, belonging to Jonathan McLean, and land on Fuiay and to the north of the Obe River (sold to Congested Districts Board), 1903 or later.
- RHP 44193 OS 1:2 500 plan (Hebrides, sheet LXIII.1), marked to show property reserved for Murdoch and William MacGillivray on estate of Eoligaray from land disposed to Board of Agriculture, 1919.
- RHP 44294 OS 6" plan (Hebrides, sheet LXV), marked round Vaslain to show land (sold to the Congested Districts Board), 1903 or later.
- RHP 46318 OS 1" map (Barra, sheet 58) showing existing and suitable crofter holdings in terms of Royal Commission, Highlands and Islands Reports of 1892, Lithographers Wyman & Sons.
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- RHP 46398 OS 6" plan (Inverness-shire, sheet LXIII), marked to show allotted lands on Barra concerning Barra Parish Council, showing North-east Barra, 1881 or later.

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| Description of Barra (1549), p. 14, p. 23. | MS 31.2.6 |
| Description of Barra (c. 1644), p. 90ff., p. 192v. | MS 34.2.8 |
| Copy (1749) of description of Barra (c. 1644), p. 453. | MS 35.3.12(ii) |
| Description of Barra (c. 1680), p. 19v., p. 27. | MS 33.3.20 |

Edinburgh University Library, Special Collection:

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| Carmichael-Watson | Barra, Mingulay | CW114/2 |
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School Diary (Log Book), Eoligaray Public School, no. 32.6713, 22nd November 1921 – 1st March 1938.

Dualchas, Barra Heritage Centre, Castlebay:

Mingulay School Register, 9th October 1885 – 17th September 1887.

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Audiotape:	Area:	Informant:	Field-worker:
SA 1958/158	Barra	Nan MacKinnon, Jonathan MacLeod	Lisa Sinclair
SA 1958/159/4	Berneray, Mingulay	Jonathan MacLeod	James Ross
SA 1958/160	Mingulay, Pabbay, Sandray	Jonathan MacLeod	James Ross
SA 1958/161	Vatersay	Jonathan MacLeod	James Ross
SA 1959/2/A+B	Mingulay	Michael MacPhee	Lisa Sinclair
SA 1960/96/A1	Pabbay	Nan MacKinnon	Lisa Sinclair
SA 1960/117/B13	story	Nan MacKinnon	James Ross
SA 1974/112/A9	story	Flora Boyd	Emily Lyle
SA 1976/9	Castle Bay, Vatersay, Sandray, Pabbay, Mingulay	Malcolm MacAulay	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/10	Berneray, Vatersay	Malcolm MacAulay	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/11	Vatersay Bruernish	Malcolm MacAulay Annie + Archie MacKinnon	Ian A. Fraser Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/12	Bruernish	Roderick MacPherson	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/13	Hellisay	Roderick MacPherson	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/14	Bogach Northbay	Roderick MacPherson Jonathan MacNeil	Ian A. Fraser Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/15	Fuiay, Gighay	Jonathan MacNeil	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/16	Brevig	Ronald MacDonald	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/17	Rulios, Bolnabodach Scurrival	Ronald MacDonald Niall MacKinnon	Ian A. Fraser Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/18	Allasdale	Archie MacDonald	Ian A. Fraser
SA 1976/19		Archie MacDonald	Ian A. Fraser

C.2 Maps

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D Included Maps

1977	Ordnance Survey Pathfinder 216	1:25 000	Lochboisdale
1977	Ordnance Survey Pathfinder 231	1:25 000	Barra (North)
1991	Ordnance Survey Pathfinder 247	1:25 000	Castlebay
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A1	Trunk or Main road	
A2	Secondary road	
A3	Dual carriageway	
A4	Road generally more than 4m wide	
A5	Road generally less than 4m wide	
A6	Other road, drive or track	
Unfenced roads and tracks are shown by dashed lines		
Path		

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (Not applicable to Scotland)
Public rights of way shown on this map may not be evident on the ground.
Public paths: Footpath, Byway open to all traffic, Road used as a public path.
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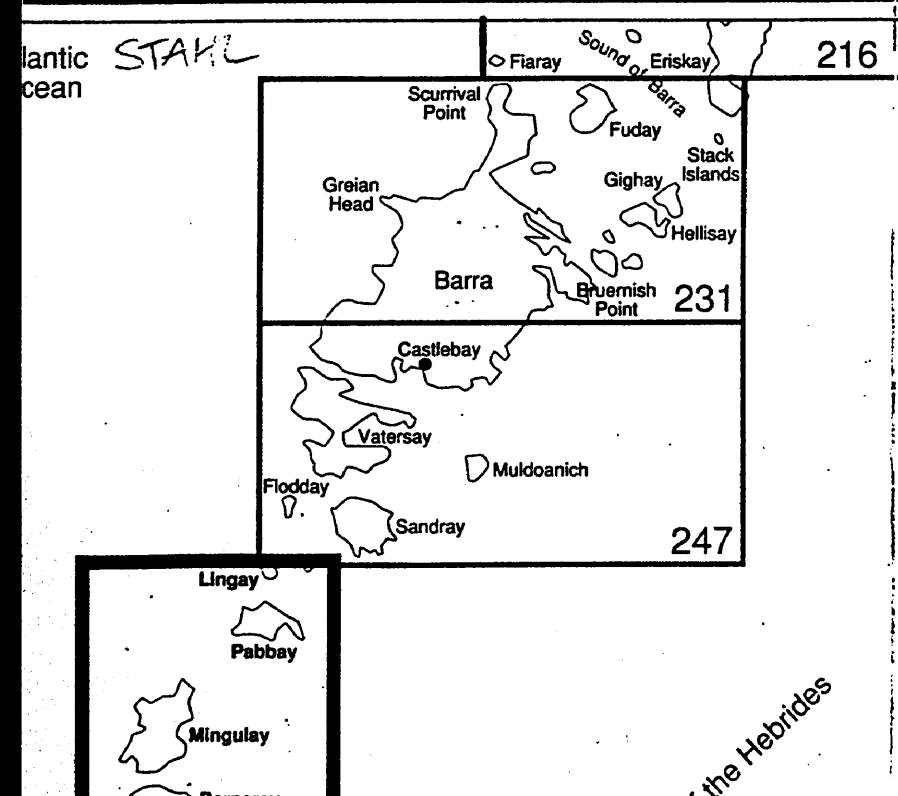
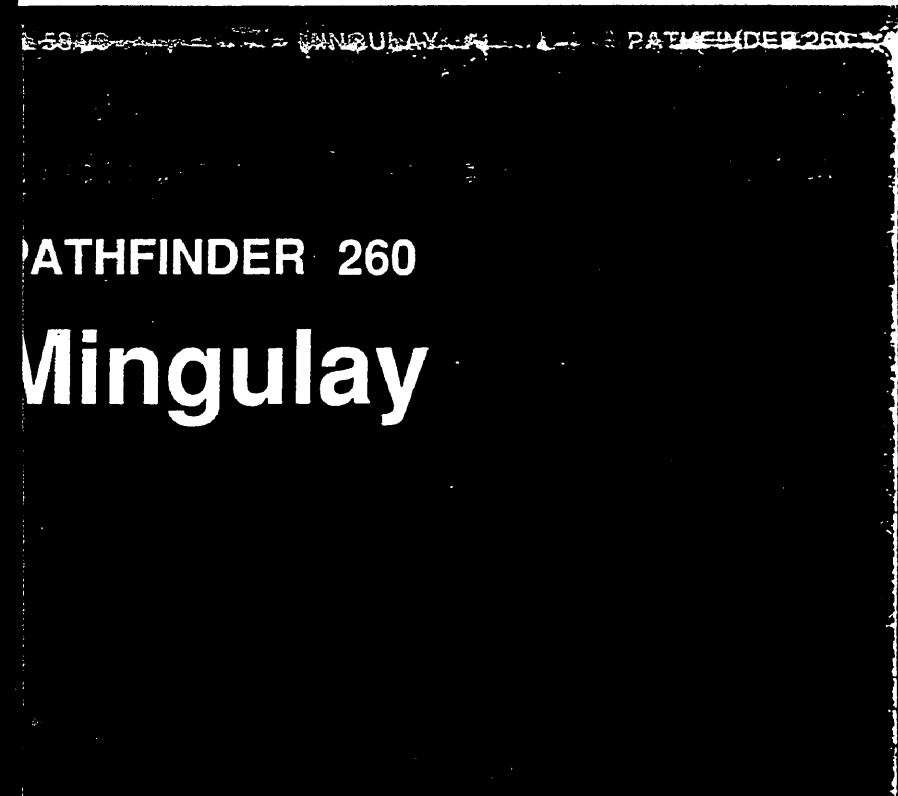
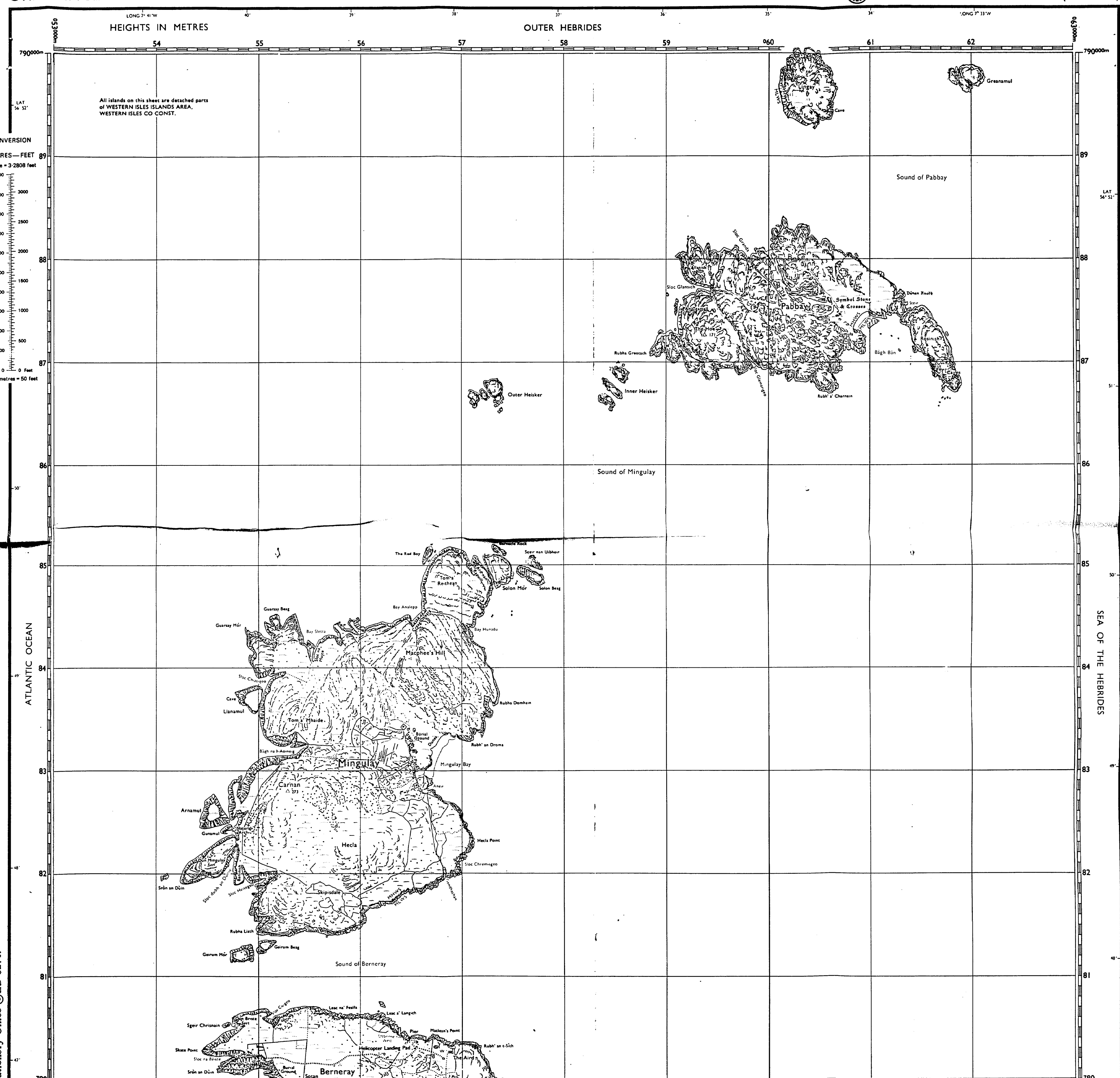
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Mingulay

Lingay

Pabbay

Mingulay

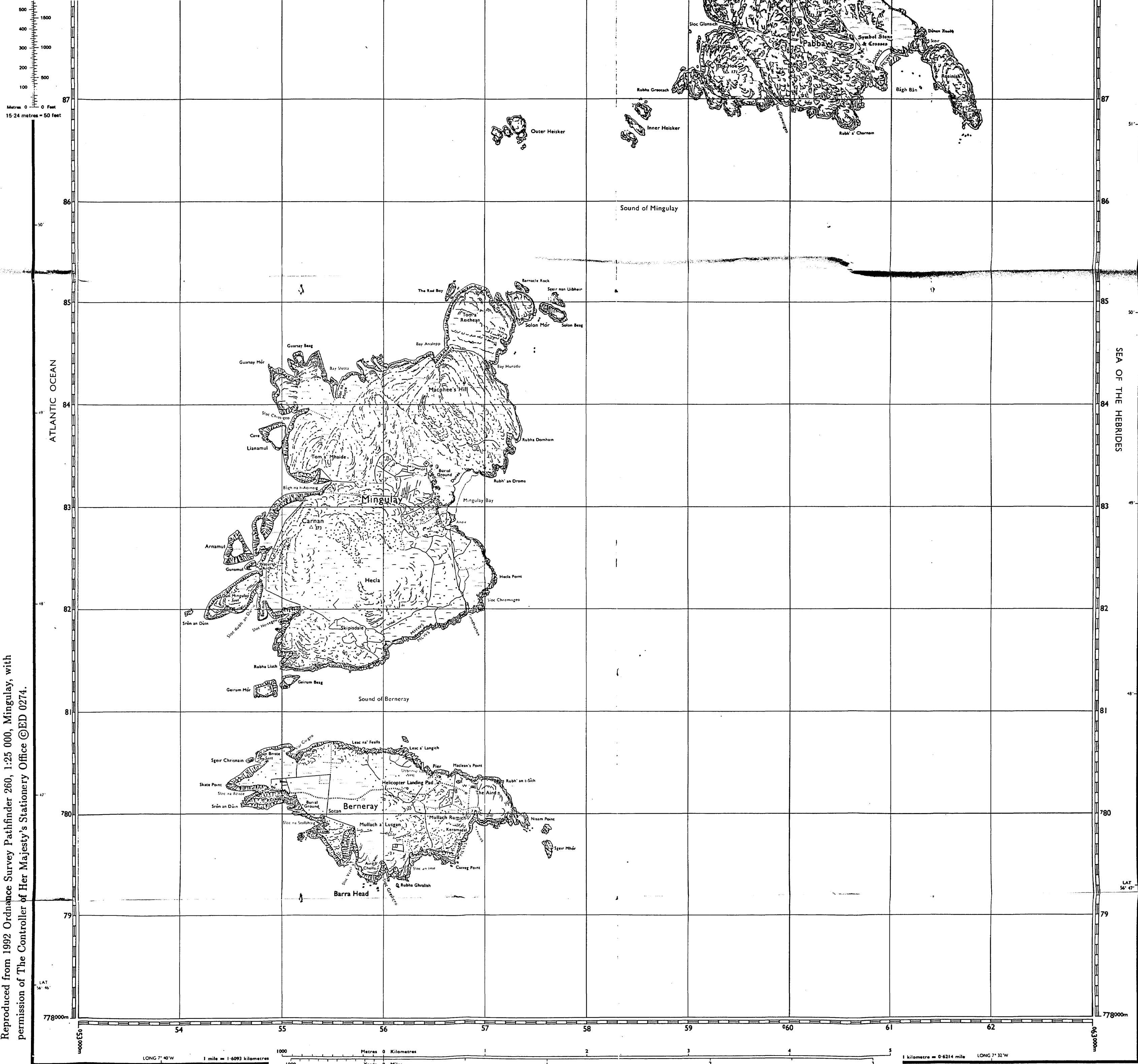
Berneray

Barra Head

260

Sea of the Hebrides

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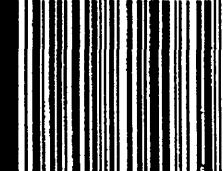


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- Other road, drive or track
- Unfenced roads and tracks are shown by pecked lines
- Path

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (Not applicable to Scotland)
Public rights of way shown on this map may not be evident on the ground

- Public paths (Footpath)
- Byway open to all traffic
- Road used as a public path
- Information not available in uncoloured areas
- Piling and test ranges in the area
- Danger! Observe warning notices

Rights of way indicated by these symbols have been derived from Definitive Maps as amended by later enactments or instruments of the Ordnance Survey

WAYS

- Multiple track
- Standard gauge
- Single track
- Siding
- Narrow gauge
- Tunnel; cutting; embankment
- Road over; road under; level crossing

BOUNDARIES As notified to May 1977

- County (England and Wales)
- Region or Islands Area (Scotland)
- District
- London Borough
- Civil Parish (England)
- Community (Wales)
- Constituency (County, Borough, Burgh or European Assembly)

BOULDS

- with tower
- with spire, minaret or dome
- without such additions
- Building; important building
- Glasshouse; youth hostel
- Bus or coach station
- Lighthouse; beacon
- Triangulation pillar
- Telephone; public; AA; RAC
- Sloping masonry
- Electricity transmission line

WATER

- Well, Spring
- Site of antiquity
- Site of battle (with date)
- Gravel pit
- Other pit or quarry
- Loose rock
- Outcrop
- Cliff

Water

- Mud
- Sand; sand & shingle
- National Trust open access
- National Trust limited access
- National Trust for Scotland

VEGETATION Limits of vegetation are defined by positioning of the symbols but may be delineated also by pecks or dots

- Coniferous trees
- Non-coniferous trees
- Coppice
- Orchard
- Scrub
- Marsh, reeds, saltings
- Bracken, rough grassland
- In some areas bracken (-) and rough grassland (-) are shown separately
- Hedge
- In some areas reeds (-) and saltings (-) are shown separately

HEIGHTS

- Determined by ground survey
- Surface heights are to the nearest metre above mean sea level. Heights shown close to a triangulation pillar refer to the ground level height at the pillar and not necessarily the summit
- Contours are at 10 metres vertical interval

Centre of this sheet true north is 4°33' east of grid north. Magnetic north is at 4°44' west of grid north for 1992 decreasing by about 1° in three years

Compiled from larger scale surveys dated 1967

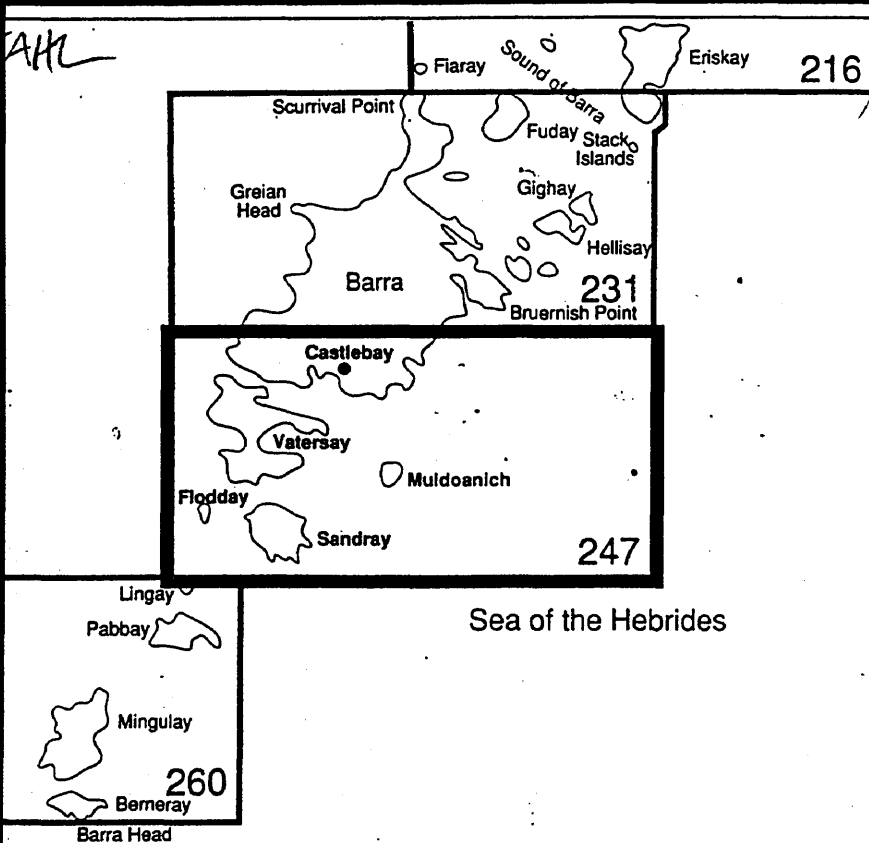
Revised for selected change 1990

OTHER ORDNANCE SURVEY PUBLICATIONS

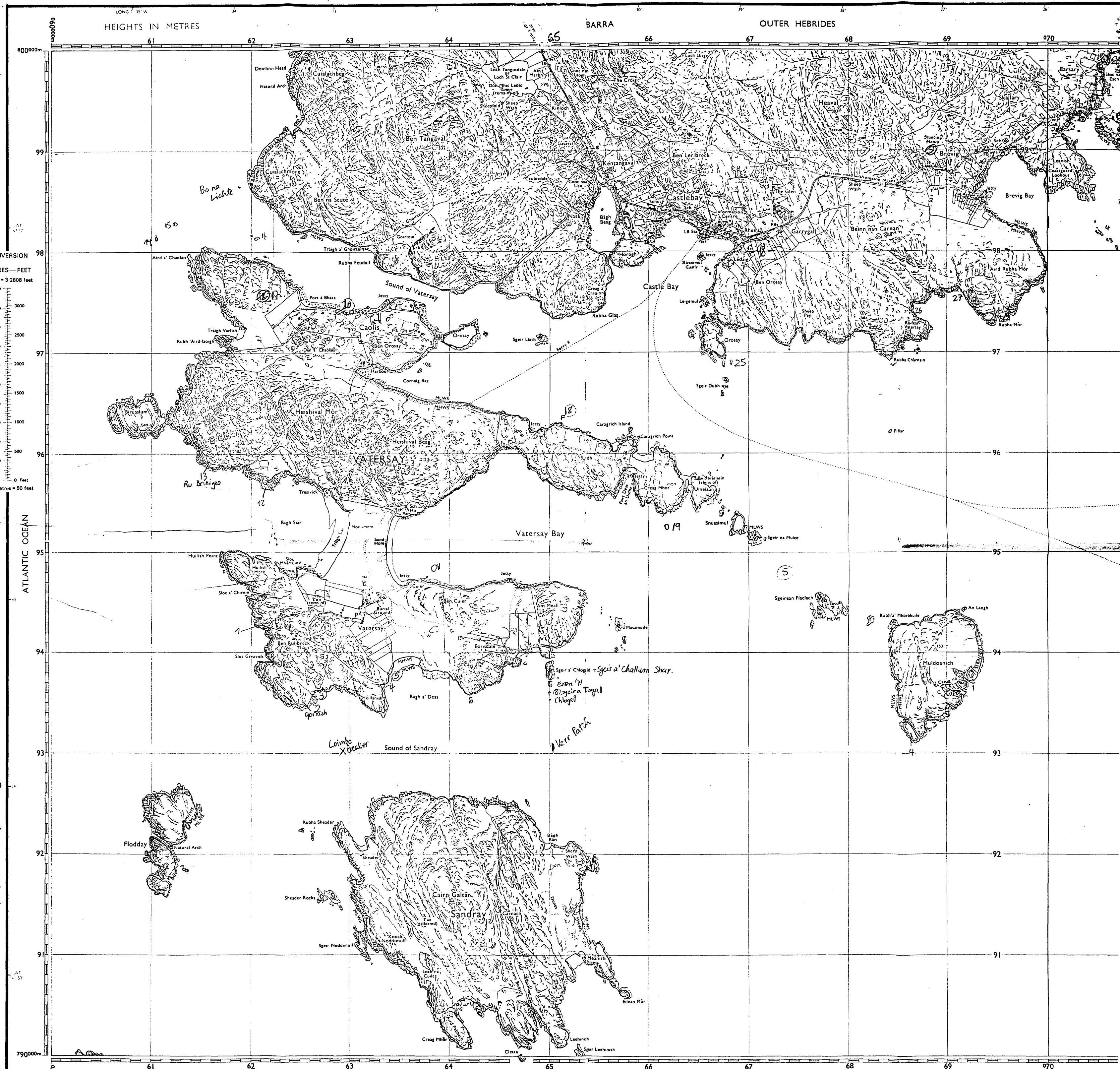
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PATHFINDER 247 Castlebay



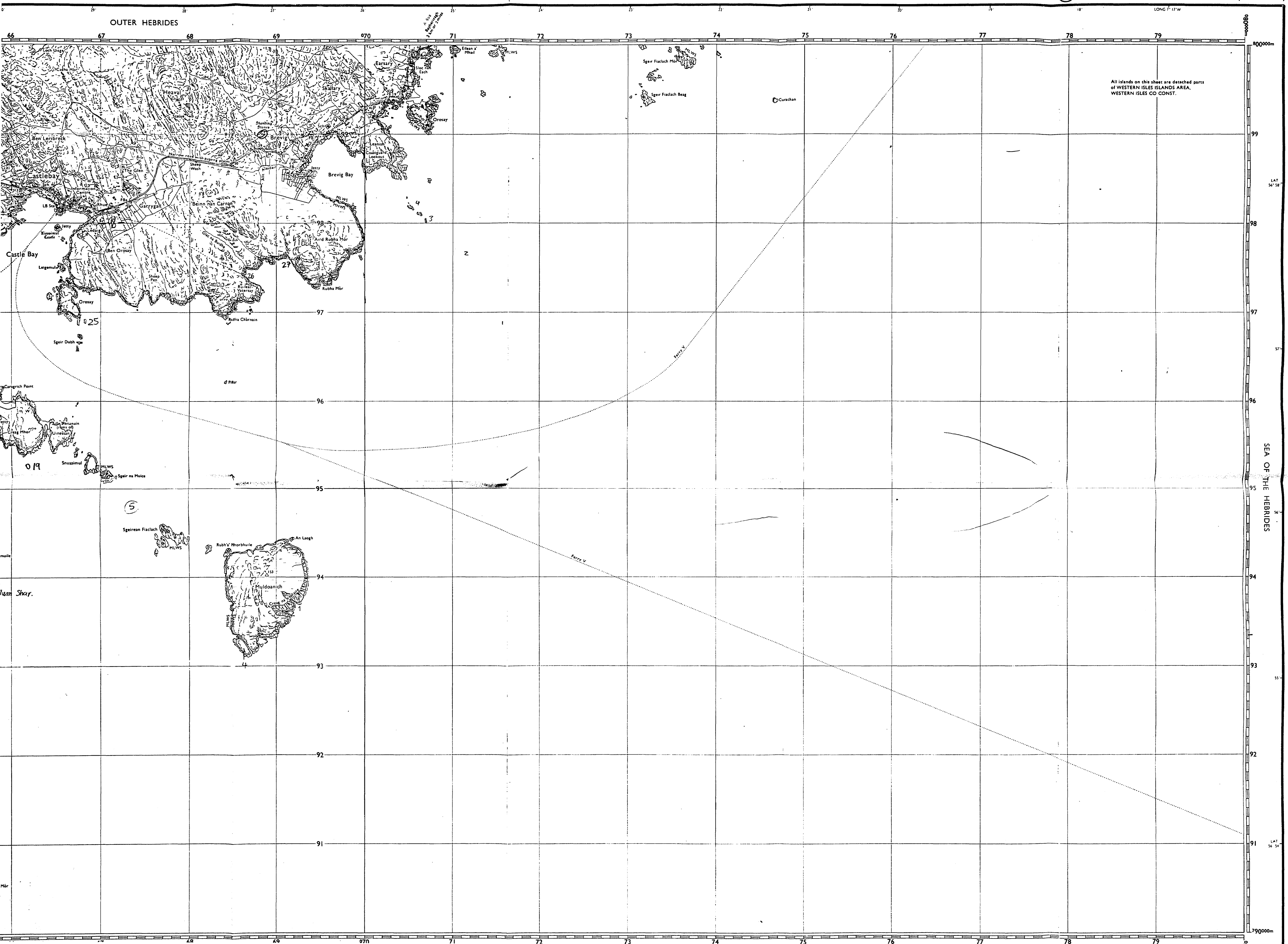
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CASTLEBAY



PATHFINDER 247 (NL 69/79)



ROADS AND PATHS

Not necessarily rights of way		RAILWAYS	
Motorway		Multiple track	Standard gauge
Trunk road		Single track	
Main road		Narrow gauge	
Secondary road		Siding	
Dual carriageway		Cutting	
Road generally more than 4m wide		Embankment	
Road generally less than 4m wide		Tunnel	
Other road, drive or track		Road over & under	
Unfenced roads and tracks are shown by pecked lines		Level crossing, station	
Path			

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

(Not applicable to Scotland)
Public rights of way shown on this map may not be evident on the ground.
Public paths Footpath
Bridleway Information not available in uncoloured areas
Road used as a public path
MOD range in the area
Danger! Observe warning notices

Public rights of way indicated by these symbols have been derived from Definitive Maps as amended by later enactments or Instruments held by Ordnance Survey.
The representation on this map of any other road, track or path is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

BOUNDARIES

As notified to 1-2-77
County (England and Wales) Region or Islands Area (Scotland)
District
London Borough
Civil Parish (England)* Community (Wales)
Constituency (County, Borough or Burgh)
Coincident boundaries are shown by the first appropriate symbol opposite
*For Ordnance Survey purposes County Boundary is deemed to be the limit of the parish structure whether or not a parish area adjoins

SYMBOLS

Church with tower	VILLA	Water
Church with spire	(AD 43 to AD 420)	
Chapel without tower or spire	Castle	Sand, sand & shingle
Glasshouse, Youth hostel	Site of antiquity	Mud
Bus or coach station	Site of battle (with date)	
Lighthouse, lighthouse, beacon	Gravel, sand pit	
Triangulation station	Disused pit or quarry	NT National Trust always open
Triangulation church, chapel, lighthouse, beacon, building & chimney	Chalk pit, clay pit or quarry	NT National Trust opening restricted
BP, BS Boundary Post, Stone	Refuse or slag heap	NTS National Trust for Scotland
T.A.R. Telephone, public, AA, RAC	Sloping masonry	Electricity transmission line
P, MP, MS Post office, Mile Post, Stone	Well, Spring	pylon pole

VEGETATION

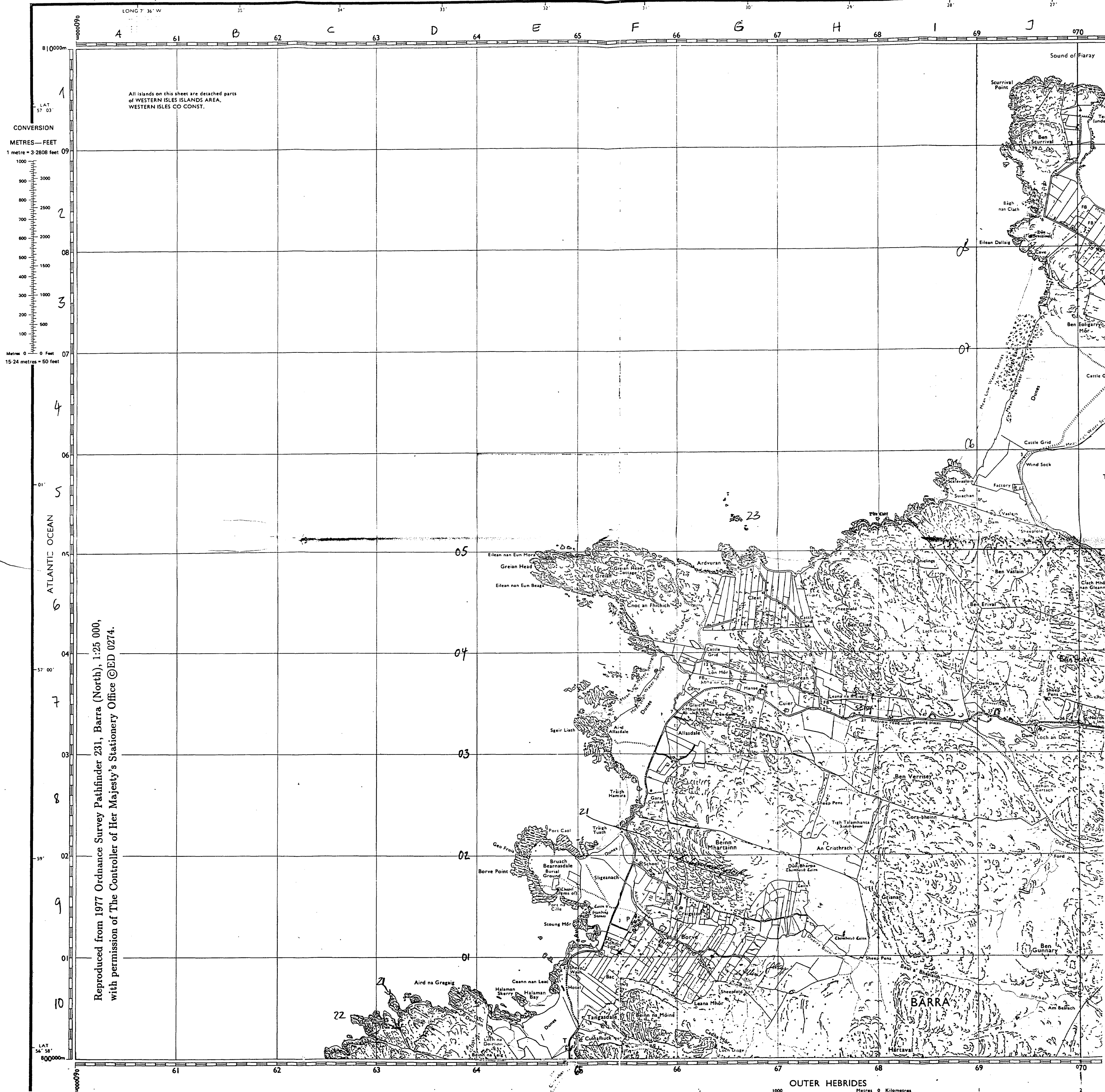
Limits of vegetation are defined by positioning of the symbols but may be delineated also by pecks or dots
Coniferous trees
Non-coniferous trees
Coppice
Orchard
Scrub
Bracken, rough grassland
Heath
Marsh
Saltings
Shown collectively as rough grassland on some sheets

HEIGHTS AND ROCK FEATURES

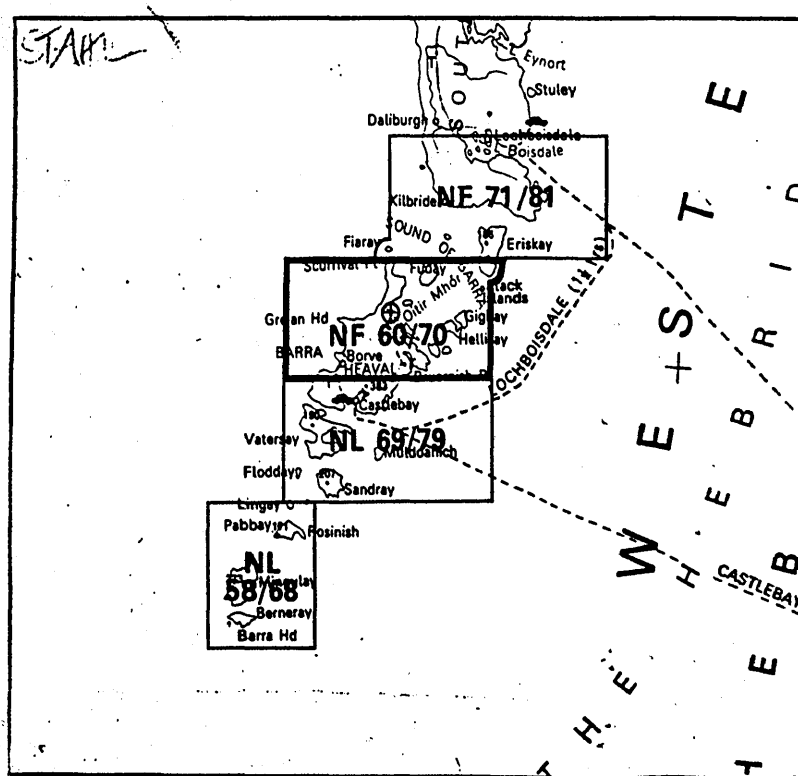
50 Determined by ground survey
Vertical face
Contours have been surveyed at 25 feet vertical interval but values are given to the nearest metre
Surficial heights are to the nearest metre above mean sea level. Heights shown close to a triangulation pillar refer to the station height at ground level and not necessarily to the summit.
Loose rock Boulders Outcrop Scree

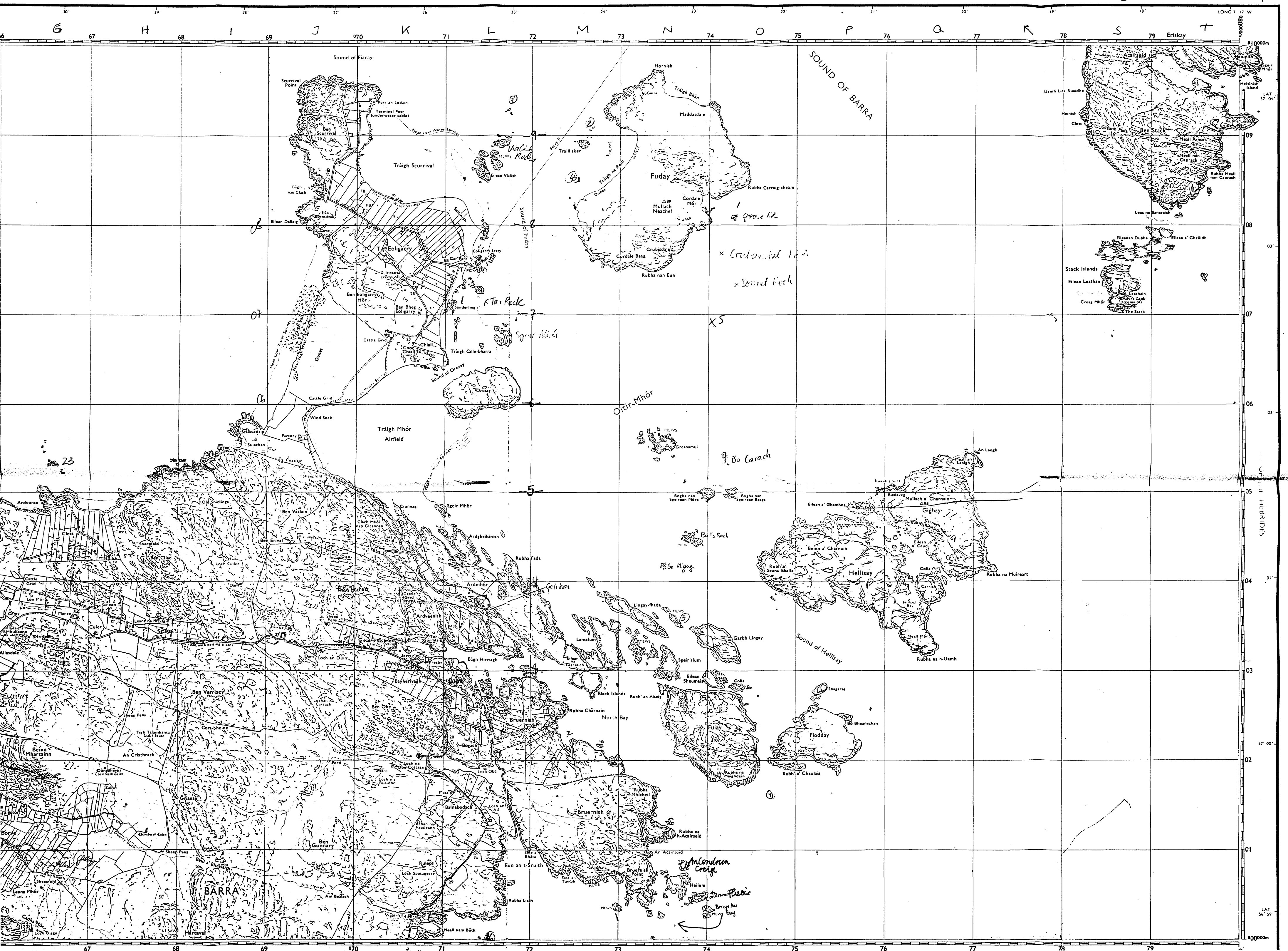
As the centre of this sheet true north is 4° 34' east of grid north. Magnetic north was about 4° west of grid north in 1977 decreasing by about 1° in four years.
A booklet, Place names on maps of Scotland and Wales, is published by the Ordnance Survey and includes a glossary of the most common Gaelic, Scandinavian and Welsh elements used on Ordnance Survey maps of Scotland and Wales.
Details of abbreviations used on this map can be provided on request.
Made and published by the Ordnance Survey, Southampton.
This sheet has been compiled from 1:10 560 or 1:10 000 scale maps, published 1971-72, which were made from surveys dated 1967.
Revised for significant changes 1976.
Major roads revised 1977.

BARRA (NORTH)



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LONG 7° 26' W

